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— *Facilis descensus Avernæ,
Sed revocare gradum, superasque evadere ad auras,
Hoc opus, hic labor est.* VIRGIL.

Easy's the downward path that leads to fate;
So watch, with jealous care, the freeborn State;
When once 't is open'd wide, then precedent
Sweeps boldly, headlong, down the steep descent
And dire the labour hard, and great the cost,
E'er to regain what freedom thus has lost.

Although much of the substance of the following letter has been anticipated in the reasonings given by a contemporary political writer (see Canadian Spectator of the 22d Jan.) the civil list, and the various bearings in which the measures to be adopted on that subject, both by the Executive, and by the Legislature, are so momentous, that I prefer giving it entire.

MR. MACCULLOH,

In your last no. (14) a fear is expressed of something insidious lurking under that part of the Governor's speech in which he announces his intention of submitting to the House an estimate, for the year, of the expenses of local establishments and objects of public charge, for which he calls upon them to provide according to the principles stated by him in his message of Feb. 6.

I certainly conceive that if there were no latent views hidden under this expression, it would have been laid down with more precision, what those principles were; and the sentence appears to me to be a kind of diplomatic slipknot, a playing at fast and loose, in order to sound the feelings of the Assembly on the subject, and to act accordingly. With this view of the matter, I think it also one of regret, that the House did not in its reply make some allusion to the principles upon which they were expected to act in granting supplies, and those upon which the Governor has acted, or meant to act, in appropriating monies within his reach to such purposes as he may think fit, independent of any vote of the house: a system which, it appears to me, that part of his message was meant to insinuate the adoption of. The whole, however, is of so vague a character, and so ambiguously expressed, that we are only left to conjecture what the intentions of the Executive are, in that respect, instead