

with the progressive spirit of the age and the rising intelligence of the colony. There are those amongst us who feel that they have entered upon "a new phase of time," and on a new section of the world—men of knowledge and experience who are not likely to submit to leading strings, or to be deluded by shams. It is a matter of history that if Louis Phillippe had raised the electoral body from two hundred thousand to half a million, the reform would have satisfied France and he might have held the throne. But when they could not approach to any thing like true representation—when the true powers of the Nation were used for "the monopolist benefit of a bought and sold clique," they burst their bonds and declared for universal suffrage: which ultimately led to despotism. Sir James Mackintosh has said—"The dangers of Europe do not originate in democratic power, but in a conspiracy for the subversion of all popular rights, however sanctioned by oaths, by constitutions, and by laws." Rulers and Governments should be warned by the downfall of the citizen king.

Universal suffrage, however, is a bug-bear. Those of us who have resided in the United States, and observed the working of the principle, can afford to smile at the notion of taking for a model an American election, or appealing to the sacredness of the ballot. There every election is carried by the bribery of all the offices, either Federal or State. "The road to the ballot box is not through their own schools, or even by successive training." It is swamped by ship loads of German and Irish emigrants. "The genius of the Constitution of America, is representation of numbers: that of Great Britain, of class." The British people cannot adopt the American custom: they consider that the safety of reform is in "the manly virtue of the enfranchisement," and they know that personal liberty and safety are better assured, and that public opinion is more faithfully represented, and acts with a better regulated power, than in the United States. They deem it necessary "that the recipient of the franchise is a citizen fully responsible for the duties of citizenship, and the natural tendency of whose position, will be to make him take a sincere interest in the commonwealth, rather than to play with his share of power for any momentary passion or any contemptible bribe."

The question of Political Reform is a very important question. The admission that reform is needed, brings us at once to the conclusion that the Legislative Assembly does not represent the interests of the colonists. To the question, what reform is needed? it is answered—a real honest representation. A substitute for what exists at the present time, and which, to a certain extent, is not honest. A full, free, and fair representation is required—a franchise based upon a principle so that "popular intelligence, popular interests, popular virtue," can play their part in making the laws which the Legislative Assembly call upon us to obey.

The people want to see an infusion of new and popular materials into the Executive Council, which has hitherto been composed of "three Chief Factors" of the Hudson Bay Company. They want a reform that will give them twenty members instead of seven, that will