

the late dissolution of the Provincial Parliament, one would be apt to suppose, that all the clamour of contradiction and tumult of absurdity by which its proceedings were marked, is nothing more than the blunders of *honest ignorance*. Tell him of the turbulence, illegality and folly of his conduct ; he puts his hand on his breast, and with ineffable humility and a most subdued tone of voice, he replies "*peut-être bien je me suis trompé.*" He has nothing but the love of his fellow creatures in his mind, and 'la douce humanité' in his mouth.\*

The men who meditated the massacres and confiscations in France, were in their outward behaviour the mildest, gentlest, tamest creatures in the world. "They could not (says an elegant writer†) bear the punishment of the mildest laws on the greatest criminals. The slightest severity of justice made the flesh creep. Had any one told the unfortunate noblemen and gentlemen, how and by whom the grand fabric of the monarchy under which they flourished would be subverted, they would not have pitied him as a visionary, but have turned from him as a "*mauvais plaisant.*" YET WE HAVE ALL SEEN WHAT HAS HAPPENED.

No opinion is more general than that the Canadians have heretofore been the most loyal and dutiful of all His Majesty's colonial subjects. This opinion seems to be derived from a comparison of their conduct with that of the English Colonies in their vicinity.—If men will look no farther than the surface of things, it is not very strange that they should fall into error and make general and un-

\* In the history of every people that I have met with, (said Baron George) I invariably find that the most unprincipled usurpers have always set out with professing to be the poor man's friend.

† Ed. Burke.

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