

cent it excites no surprise, nor is there any clue whereby the mystery can be obtained. The invention is your own, preserve the secret, and transmit it to your successors, for a better legacy you can not bestow.

If, in proceeding thus far with the task I have undertaken to perform, I should have omitted any thing material, I intreat your indulgence, I will endeavour in my next to make amends for present defects. I pledge myself to you that my best exertions shall not be wanting to bring your merit, in its true light, before the public, who, doubtless, will do you ample justice, and readily supply in imagination that which the slender talents devoted to your cause has been unable to perform.

PORCUPINE.

As a corollary, to the preceding letter, the remark suggests itself that a bill having been brought into the House of Assembly for *extending the power* of justices of the peace, it would be an highly useful and patriotic measure, to introduce a clause into it for *extending their sense and knowledge*, for unfortunately a great proportion of the four hundred and fifty seven justices of the peace that are appointed in Lower Canada, have both more power, and less sense, than they ought to have.

In my last number I was misled by the statements in the Montreal papers, that the Assembly of Upper Canada had voted a sum to *put their constituents in possession of their proceedings*, to suppose that the £100 voted, was to pay a reporter; I find, however, by the continuation of the debate on that subject which has since come to hand, that the motion to appoint a reporter] was got rid of, by one to place that sum in the hands of the clerk, *to pay for newspapers*; one, which Mr. Baldwin very properly observed, went to destroy the object they had in view, and which was therefore, very consistently supported by Mr. Nichol, the advocate of every measure that can tend to destroy the freedom of discussion, and of the press. Unless the £100 be expended solely in the two papers, that are printed at York, it can have no effect whatever, in *putting their constituents in possession of their proceedings*, for though I, as the editor of the Free Press may come in for a share of it, with, perhaps also the editors of the Halifax and New York papers, can I or they give any reports of the debates at York beyond what we may glean from the York papers? And again, if £50 be paid to each York editor, for a quantity of waste paper, to serve the members of the assembly for their necessary occasions, (for I can not see for what other purpose 100 copies at least of each could serve,) how could there either be any certainty that the editors will employ reporters at all, or, if they