

forearmed." The first attempt of the Council to poach upon the domain of the people and thereby to mar the harmonious action of the constitution, must be crushed in the bud. But if persisted in—the shout of an aroused and indignant people will be "*à la lanterne*" with the offending exorcism; their political existence—individual and collective—will be snapped by the fiat of an avenging public, and the "crack of doom" will ring in their ears ere they be again allowed to have an opportunity of trampling upon the sacred rights of the people.

Among the advantages which have recently eminently enhanced the eligibility of Quebec on the score of salubrity may be mentioned its magnificent Aqueduct, unequalled in power by that of any City on the globe. The Town is supplied, without limitation as to quantity, from the *Château d'Eau* constructed on the River St. Charles at the Village of Lorette, nine miles from Quebec, at an elevation capable of discharging the pellucid waters of Lake St. Charles at the height of *one hundred feet* above the top of the Flag Staff on the citadel, and of completely inundating the highest building in the City with a force surpassing that of the most improved Fire Engine on "the most improved principle of modern invention," and affording, at the same time, a facility of drainage and sewerage altogether inappreciable. Compare the means of cleanliness of such a City and its purified atmosphere—in the heart of a mountainous region,—having its shores laved twice in twenty-four hours by the ocean swell which upheaves the broad Atlantic,—with the tropical climates of more inland cities, situate in champagne countries scarcely broken by a single undulation of mother earth. In vain do the inhabitants of these look round for the commanding altitude of a St. Charles or a Montmorency to furnish the means of cooling their incandescent streets and pavements. In vain—ruminating upon the borders of their low marshes and swamps—do they fancy that they overlook, or affect to *look down* upon the promontory of Cape Diamond. In vain, are they surrounded or bathed by mighty rivers and lakes, most of them the fruitful source of perennial aches and agues. These inland seas would furnish an everlasting deluge for the wants of the inhabitants, could they first reverse or overcome the laws of gravitation, and invert the established order of things to the same degree that they violate the dictates of reason and common sense in their labours to depreciate the position of Quebec and puff up their own sultry or humid localities as eligible sites for the permanent Seat of the Government of Canada.

Amidst all the plotting and intriguing against the City of Quebec in and out of Parliament by persons actuated by interested motives, and utterly reckless of the general welfare of the Province; amidst all the manœuvring of political adventurers seeking to make capital out of the prejudices and the selfish views of the inhabitants of particular localities, the most unscrupulous of these advocates of *outré* popular notions,—whose career is stereotyped in acts of political fraud and imposture, have not dared to enter into a comparative estimate of the eligibility of the various rival Cities. They have restricted their comments and their strictures to the one oft repeated assertion that Quebec is situate at one *extremity* of the Province,—an objection which every schoolboy knows to be unfounded. Quebec is distant some five hundred miles from the eastern, and about seven hundred and fifty from the western limits of United Canada. The sources of wealth derivable from numerous and valuable water powers for manufacturers, and rich and inexhaustible fisheries in Eastern Canada, are incalculable; while the means of settlement of the western Section, extensive and fertile though they be, have yet a visible limit assigned to them. Political jugglers and empirics may continue to predict and declaim that in a given number of years, the population of the Upper Province will far outnumber that of the Lower; but our wants and obligations are with the present, leaving the future to the course of events, and the dispensation of a Higher Power of which the dogmatical charlatans of the hour do not even pretend to know any thing. Unless we assume that the rights of the vast population inhabiting the northeastern and less congenial portion of the Province are to be utterly disregarded, we cannot with any semblance of justice establish the Seat of Government permanently in a place infinitely less accessible to them than to their