

become men of another temper and other principles, than appear now among the the expense of elections ruins families; and these families will come in time to exact a full reparation from the crown; or they will take their revenges on it, if that be fails them: the commons will grow insolent upon it, and look on the gentry as in the dependence: during the war, and while the heat of parties ferments so much, it is not easy to find a proper remedy for this. When the war is over, one expedient the power of the crown is, to declare that elections to parliament shall be annual: but if the same heat and rivalry of parties should still continue, that would ruin families so much the sooner.

No. 35. CONTESTED ELECTIONS--INCOMPETENT RETURNING OFFICERS--THE CAUSES OF DISCONTENT.

Mr. Nichol said he was favourable to a division of the Counties of Lennox and Addington, as it might put a stop to the heavy expense that was incurred every Session by the contested election for these Counties. The expense incurred for these Counties in contesting the Election, amounted to between 5 & 4000 pounds!!!! (See No. 34.)

On another occasion Mr. James Wilson said he saw nothing to complain of under the present election Law, but the corruption of Returning Officers---they put the Country to most enormous expense by their corrupt practices---he suffered by them himself, and was put to expense and trouble, he could assure the House that they were horribly corrupt, and if they passed a law against their malpractices, it would serve the Country materially; but he thought the country did not require this bill nor a number of others that were passed unnecessarily. The present law of Elections was good, it came near the Scriptures, and it would seem as if the authors of it were divinely inspired---The late decision also, respecting Location Tickets, which was made under was highly gratifying to the country.

Bigotry and Persecution, have been confined to no one sect, or denomination of christians. The London Provincial Assembly of Divines consisted of 58 of the most eminent pastors in the city. In 1647 they published their assent to the assembly's catechism, and testimony to the Solemn League and Covenant, wherein they declared their detestation and abhorrence of the "ERROR OF TOLERATION, patronized by the State, and promoting all other errors, heresies, and blasphemies whatsoever, under the name of LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE." They lay the foundation of all their calamities in the countenancing of a public and general Toleration. What sad work would these divines have made, had the sword of the magistrate been at their disposal!!--[Neale's history of the Puritans.]

No. 36. BILL TO ALLOW METHODISTS TO MARRY. &c. Sept. 1822.

The Attorney General thought the arguments of the hon. member who spoke here were fallacious, and not applicable to the present question. It was argued by him that the Roman Catholics acknowledged a foreign head, and yet they were allowed the same privileges; and were still a loyal body of people. In answer, he would say that the Roman Catholics formed but a small part of the population of this Province, and the methodist preachers were not aliens, they were for the most part natural born subjects, but the majority of the methodist preachers were aliens, from a foreign land, who were never educated in the principles of loyalty and attachment to the British Government.

[The Attorney General's opinion in 1823, and in 1822, may be seen by comparing the above with his replies to the select committee on the petition of christians of different sects.]

Mr. Crooks did not see any injury that could arise to the Country by allowing methodists to marry---it would rather be of great service; because it would set at rest all angry feelings, and secure their affections to the Government of this Country.

No. 37. THE ELECTORS AND CANDIDATES' QUALIFICATION BILL.

See statutes of U. C. for 1824, Chapter 3rd (pages 10 to 18)---4th George 4th. Read the bill Canadians, and tell us how ye like its 16 clauses. Some of them are so bad that even Charles Jones himself could hardly swallow them. In favour of this bill, however, voted, Messrs. Burwell, Nichol, Gordon, Robert Hamilton, Clark, William J. Kerr, Rutan, Casey, Walsh, Hagerman, Ham, McMartin, Charles and John Jones, A. McDonell, Morris, Arch'd McLean, Shaver, Att'y General, and Bostwick.

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