

common gaol of this city. Let us suppose the chief justice to follow the same arbitrary conduct at some other epoch (perhaps one not very distant) and cause the faithful and loyal Canadian subjects of His Majesty, who may have the courage to fulfil their duties to their country with independence and boldness, to be thrown into fetters, upon suspicion of treason, or allegations of sedition; would he not now have it in his power to have them tried by a *packed jury* to be selected by his son; and afterwards execute, by that very son in his quality as sheriff? It is a monstrous and dangerous appointment, one ominous and pregnant with evil. The lives and properties of the inhabitants of this district are put in jeopardy by it, and we are all thereby exposed to be the victims of the caprice, of the hatred, and of the vindictiveness, of the chief justice, qualities which I believe, it will not be denied, that he possesses his full share of; and have we not the warning voice ringing in our ears when we reflect on the execrable conduct which he pursued during the time of that despot Craig? All the world agree that if Lord Dalhousie had but seriously reflected upon the consequences, and indeed the unconstitutionality, of this appointment, he would never have made it. I am given to understand that a petition is about to be presented to his Excellency by the inhabitants of the city and district of Quebec, praying him to give some other place to young Sewell (if he must have one), and bestow that of sheriff upon a person, who is not only one of more years, weight, and responsibility, but also one who is not under the influence of the chief justice, who, it is on all hands acknowledged, has already both too much power, and has proved himself too willing to abuse it.

I must defer till my next what I have further to say and remain yours

CONSISTENCY

*A note on this subject deferred till next number for want of room.*

One of the Montreal papers has lately ostentatiously announced that 250 names are already annexed to the Unionist petition; on the 2d Dec. there were 1572 signatures to the anti-unionist petition of the district of London, in Upper Canada, from one section only of the district, and about 2000 more were expected to be added in the course of a fortnight. It would give spirit to the cause, were the numbers to each petition regularly announced.

L. L. M.

The letter from *St. Eriole, Côte de Beaupré*, is under consideration; it appears rather too personal; but a private letter will be sent to the writer on the subject.