

people of that colony expressed their approbation of, and confidence in, the labours of that committee. My Noble Friend, last night, quoted the terms in which they spoke of that committee. They described the Report as one of high liberality and profound wisdom. The House of Assembly, on two repeated occasions, — in 1828 and 1831, — in addresses to the Crown, prayed that “the Constitution, as established by law, might be transmitted, unimpaired, to posterity;” and, as I before stated, it has been the continuous effort of each successive Government, since 1828, to carry out the recommendations contained in that Report. Such having been the feeling of Canada at that time, what has taken place since then to justify the measures of the popular leaders? I cannot believe that the redress of grievances is the real object that a party has in view, when the greater the disposition to conciliate that is evinced on the part of the Government, and the more the redress of grievances is effected, the louder become the complaints of the leaders of that party. Sir, in my opinion, the real grievance of the popular agitators in Lower Canada is, a jealousy of the rapid immigration which has, of late years, taken place into the Canadas from Great Britain. By means of this great augmentation of British settlers, a speedy extinction, they think, is threatened to that selfish influence which they now exercise over the happy and thriving, though easily deluded, habitants of Lower Canada. And their own words even justify this interpretation. Not long ago, the *Minerve* newspaper (the leading journal of the Papineau party in Montreal, and, I believe, at one time edited by M. Viger, the agent of the House of Assembly in this country in 1833), contains the following passages:—

It may be seen, according to this, that there exist here two parties, of opposite interests and manners, — the Canadians and the English. These first, born Frenchmen, have the habits and characters of such. They have inherited from their fathers a hatred to the English.