

tion, in name of the queen ; first taking care, however, to assure myself, by an application to the provincial crown-lawyers, that the existence of such an association as the ' British Rifle Legion ' was not only unconstitutional in spirit, but in reality illegal altogether. Again, a self-interested and headstrong section of the Anglo-Canadian commercialists has always labored, by misrepresentation of facts and opinions to their correspondents in the mother country, trading and political, to cause their friends among us to forward their views, defend their acts, and palliate the exorbitancies which have really done much to provoke those of their fellow-colonists suffering from them into a partial rebellion. So long as this section, or the party of which it is the van, is allowed to ride rough-shod over common rights, there will be distrust and discontent in the country. I am happy to be able to say, however, that these remarks apply only to a small part of the British population, located chiefly in the environs of Montreal, and to some partisans in Quebec. Many of the Brito-Canadians have reprobated to me, in the strongest terms too, the intemperateness of their fellow-colonists, just adverted to. It is also a curious fact, that when the troubles broke out, the malcontent populace—for I may almost designate as such the insurgents—who took part in them were not led by French-Canadians. At St. Denis, they were commanded by Wolfred Nelson ; at St. Charles, by one Brown, an Anglo-American ; at St. Benoit, by a Swiss. The outbreak, as I have already observed, took place only in a part of Montreal district. In the other divisions of that jurisdiction, and in the other four districts of Lower Canada, viz. Gaspé, St. Francis, Quebec, and Three Rivers, all was peaceful, and the civil authorities were unassailed. The troubles in the disturbed district were completely appeased in three weeks' time, and meanwhile addresses from all parts were sent to me, reproving the conduct of a few misguided men led away by evil counsel ; the repudiators of their violence assuring me of the determination of the Canadians, in general, to support the government. In a word, the most perfect tranquillity reigned throughout the Lower Province before I left the country. But this state of things was not agreeable to the party which aimed at crushing the French-derived population.

" Convinced as I am of the exact verity of all I have now advanced, I cannot but regard the meditated union of the Canadas as a most unjust and tyrannical measure, proposed in view of depriving the Lower Province of its constitution, under the pretext, as a sufficing cause, that a handful of ill-intentioned men committed culpable acts ; the sure effect of the project being, to deliver into the hands of a section of the commu-