

hay-stack, and declared to the astonished tavern-keeper and orator, that the lifeless stumps had heard him with fixed attention, and had not raised a single dissentient voice. "Judging, therefore," he said, "according to the rule, that *silence gives consent*, you may rest satisfied that, from the maple to the poplar, all the trees of the wood entertain a very high sense of your fitness to be their representative, and will certainly support you to the utmost of their power."—The effect which this unexpected intrusion had upon the diligent candidate, may be easily imagined: No doubt, it answered all the purposes of an electric shock, and effectually cured him of his Parliamentary mania.

The Parliament of Upper Canada is, however, much more respectable now, than it was twenty or even ten years ago: But much is still wanting to render a seat in it an enviable distinction. Each of the members receives two dollars per diem during his attendance in the House,—beside a certain allowance for travelling expences, amounting, I believe, to ten shillings for every twenty miles. This expence is defrayed by direct taxation; and though it does not amount to more than sixpence from each freeholder, it is accounted by many a *grievance of no small magnitude*. But it is in some sort unavoidable; for if there were no such allowance, I am inclined to think there could not be a dozen persons found in the Province, who would undertake the duties of a representative.