

AN APPEAL TO THE BRITISH PUBLIC FROM A CANADIAN LOYALIST.

Previously to the breaking out of the Canadian Rebellion I was engaged by the authorities of the State of Michigan, United States of America, as ornithologist and assistant geologist, at a salary of 1,500 dollars per annum; and, in addition to this, I was commissioned by the State University, as well as by fifteen of its branches, to collect ornithological specimens and make up museums, the profits of which commissions would amount to a very considerable sum.

On the breaking out of the Rebellion I resided in the city of Detroit, and I soon became aware that an expedition was being got up by the citizens of the State of Michigan, and under the direction of a Canadian rebel, the object of which was to take Amherstberg, a post of considerable importance on Lake Erie, and to assist McKenzie in his attempt upon Upper Canada. Had this expedition succeeded, the result, as regarded the Canadas, would in all probability have been very different from what it was. Knowing that the troops had been drawn to Lower Canada, and being aware that the people of the United States in general looked upon this as a good opportunity, not only to decide the long-disputed boundary question, but to annex the Canadas to the Union, I determined, as a British subject, to watch their movements and frustrate their attempts. I therefore, at a considerable expense, employed persons to procure me information as to the whole of their plans; and, in defiance of the hostility which I knew I should provoke, I remonstrated with the authorities of the State of Michigan, and succeeded so far as to delay the execution of their project; by which means they were deprived of five hundred stand of arms and three pieces of cannon. Thus a rebellion, or rather an invasion, which threatened to be most formidable, was arrested by my efforts, and at a time when there was not a British soldier in Upper Canada to resist it. The American people, hearing that large reinforcements were sent from Great Britain to Canada, enrolled the whole of their militia, and collected all their troops upon the frontier, for the purpose, as they alleged, of supporting their neutrality law, but, in reality, to take the first opportunity which offered of seizing upon the Canadas in the event of a war with Great Britain.