

being only a matter of instruction to the governor, his lordship, not knowing of any reason why Mr. Uniacke should be displaced, has, very independently; declined to follow that instruction, and left Mr. M. to seek for better fortune elsewhere.

MR. FREE PRESS,

Permit me to transmit to you some conjectural errata, in the Montreal Gazette, of the 9th instant, page 3, column 1, line 56, for *Assianic phrase*, read *Asimic phrase*, indicative of the qualities of the editor; vel *Occanic phrase*, as appertaining to waves & rocks; vel *Essomo phrase*, meaning one imitative of the pompous inanity of Mr. Esson; vel *Asiatic phrase*, to denote its oriental hyperbolical inflation. PHILOLOGUS.

P. S. A sly printer's devil, from the office of the Gazette, has just hinted to me the true reading, viz. *Ossianic*, i. e. one congenial to a blind Scotch dreamer.

To resume now my reply to Z. Whilst I contend, that the French Canadians, or rather the inhabitants of those parts of Canada, which were granted and settled upon the old tenure, are entitled, as long as they please, to be governed solely by their own laws, I fully coincide with him in opinion, that, neither in sound policy ought, nor in legal fact are, the inhabitants of the townships bound by French laws, and that distinct courts, ought, long ere this, to have been there established, for the administration of civil justice, according to the laws of England.—The fact is, that, although that must necessarily have been felt to be the case on the very first question, involving the civil rights of any man, holding in free and common soccage, coming before any court, yet the want of any precedent, the ignorance that naturally prevailed as to what was or was not English civil law, and above all, the then insignificant state, and trifling number of the settlers upon land, in free and common soccage, caused the opinion to prevail, that those cases ought, provisionally, at least, to be included under the operation of the same code, by which all the rest of the colony was governed, in civil cases. Perhaps, in that situation, provisionally, nothing better could have been done, but since the importance and population of those settlements, have so greatly augmented, the system ought to be wholly changed; and it is even necessary, in my opinion, that, looking at the letter of, and the soundest interpretation that can be given to, the constitutional acts on that subject, even a kind of act of indemnity, or confirmation, is necessary to render those legal decisions that have been hitherto given, on cases relative to the civil rights of the inhabitants of the townships valid, as I do conceive that every one of them is now void