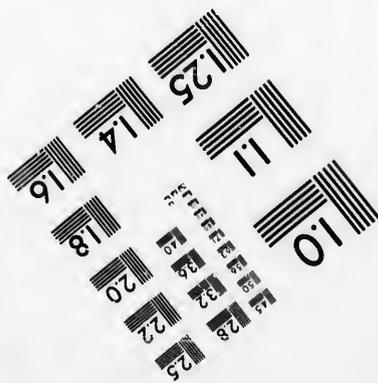
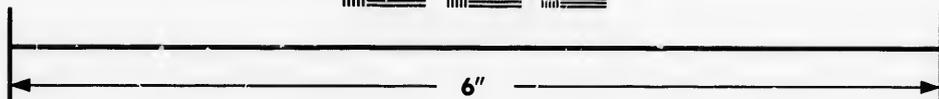
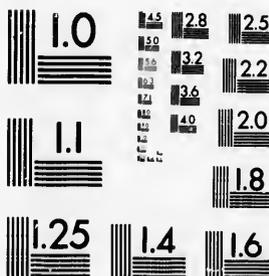


**IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)**



**Photographic
Sciences
Corporation**

23 WEST MAIN STREET
WEBSTER, N.Y. 14580
(716) 872-4503

1.5 1.8 2.0 2.2 2.5
2.8 3.2 3.6 4.0

**CIHM/ICMH
Microfiche
Series.**

**CIHM/ICMH
Collection de
microfiches.**



Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproductions historiques

1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0

© 1987

Technical and Bibliographic Notes/Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur | <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages detached/
Pages détachées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Showthrough/
Transparence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes supplementary material/
Comprend du matériel supplémentaire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion
along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la
distorsion le long de la marge intérieure | <input type="checkbox"/> Only edition available/
Seule édition disponible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blank leaves added during restoration may
appear within the text. Whenever possible, these
have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées
lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte,
mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont
pas été filmées. | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata
slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to
ensure the best possible image/
Les pages totalement ou partiellement
obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure,
etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à
obtenir la meilleure image possible. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional comments:/
Commentaires supplémentaires: | |

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	14X	18X	22X	26X	30X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12X	16X	20X	24X	28X	32X

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

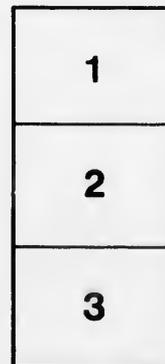
Metropolitan Toronto Library
Canadian History Department

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol \rightarrow (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ∇ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:



L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

Metropolitan Toronto Library
Canadian History Department

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole \rightarrow signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ∇ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

TR
Shelf No. 971.054.H 11



TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Reference Department.

THIS BOOK MUST NOT BE TAKEN OUT OF THE ROOM.

Oct-24 1916

L
depart
in con
a U. E
HEAD.

SIR-
and al
Press,
B He
this Pr
in thei
policy-
land, ha
nounced
ticular:
teous a
pose to
this cou
mildest
degree
ted to a
edness
on tho
for cha
and pay
Francis
they can
with mu
maligna
more es
of perso
duces m
cle in th
the com
United
Bidwell
alleged
most "
al mann

Before
this cas
people o
which w
will, I th
unfound
admirer,
Sir Fran
sion of n
attempt
ry under
been "e
sure of
Mr. Bid
the Edit
responde
not even
much les
distant C
subject fr
and how
the truth
admit pai

TORONTO, MAY 18, 1838. 134030

LETTER of Mr. ATTORNEY GENERAL to the EDITOR on the subject of Mr. BIDWELL'S departure from this Province; showing that the same was perfectly voluntary on his part; in contradiction to the assertion of a writer in the *Upper Canada Herald*, signing himself a U. E. LOYALIST, that he had been exiled by the arbitrary mandate of SIR FRANCIS BOND HEAD, late Governor of Upper Canada.

To the Editor of the Patriot.

SIR—There are some Editors of Newspapers, and also some persons unconnected with the Press, who during the period of Sir Francis B. Head's administration of the Government of this Province, were loud and apparently sincere in their admiration of his public conduct and policy—but who, since his departure for England, have assumed a different tone, and have denounced his measures, and applied epithets to particular acts of his administration equally discourteous and undeserved. It is not my present purpose to inquire into the motives that have led to this course of conduct, which to speak of it in the mildest terms, may be considered as in the highest degree reprehensible, and is by no means calculated to advance one's confidence in the disinterestedness and justice of mankind; but it imposes on those who have discovered no good reason for changing their opinions of the honest, able, and patriotic course of policy pursued by Sir Francis Head, the duty of counteracting as far as they can, the effects of misrepresentations, which with much industry and I regret to say, apparent malignancy, have been promulgated against him—more especially in any case that involves a charge of personal delinquency. It is this feeling that induces me thus publicly to notice the editorial article in the *Kingston Herald* of the 8th instant, and the communication that follows it, subscribed "A United Empire Loyalist," on the subject of Mr. Bidwell's departure from this Province, who it is alleged was "expelled" and "banished" in the most "cruel," "arbitrary," and unconstitutional manner by Sir Francis Head.

Before advertng to certain facts connected with this case, of which I think it desirable the loyal people of this Province should be informed—and which when placed before them in their true light, will, I think, sufficiently disprove the unjust and unfounded accusations of Mr. Bidwell's friend and admirer, "A United Empire Loyalist," against Sir Francis Head; I cannot withhold the expression of my great surprise, that Mr. Bidwell should attempt to promulgate, or that any man of ordinary understanding should adopt the idea, that he had been "expelled the Province at the arbitrary pleasure of a Governor." No man knows better than Mr. Bidwell, and none ought to know better than the Editor of the *Kingston Herald*, and his correspondent "A United Empire Loyalist"—that not even the QUEEN OF ENGLAND herself, much less a Governor of one of Her Majesty's distant Colonies could arbitrarily expel a British subject from any part of the British dominions—and however much Mr. Bidwell may be blinded to the truth of his own case, from the peculiar and I admit, painful situation in which he has placed him-

self—and however desirous his political partizans may be to represent him as a persecuted man, it will be utterly impossible for him or any other person to convince a single intelligent and honest man of this community, that his expatriation was not his own voluntary act, or that he did not leave the Province because it was his duty and his interest to do so, and that he was grateful for the permission given him to depart unimpeached, and which permission let it be remembered, was granted him by the very persons whose destruction had well nigh been accomplished by men who had been led to the commission of treason, through the persuasion of those who encouraged & maintained that anti-British policy he had from his infancy advocated, & earnestly recommended to the people of this Province for their adoption; a policy which "A United Empire loyalist" seems for some mysterious reason, desirous should be once more planted among us, or at all events, that its chief and most artful supporter should be invited hack to the country, that he might again disseminate his principles if he should think fit, and thus again put to hazard that repose and harmony so essential to our future and present welfare. I very greatly mistake the character and feelings of the people of this Province however, if he will find many real "LOYALISTS" to join him in his singular and extraordinary design. I agree with "A United Empire loyalist," that there are many loyal subjects among that class of persons who style themselves "Reformers;" but the number is at this moment very small of those, who now desire to recognize Mr. Bidwell as their leader. He, as they know from fatal experience, may lead them into danger and into situations of the most humiliating difficulty, but when there, they may look in vain for his assistance to extricate them.

But to proceed to the more important object of this communication.

The Rebellion as every one knows broke out on Monday night the 4th December. On the *Wednesday morning* following, I met Mr. Bidwell in the street, he told me that he had been anxious to see me, and that he had written me a note to say so—that his object in seeking the interview was to tell me, that he felt he must be looked upon with distrust, and that from the circumstance of his having always been identified in politics with the leaders of the insurrection, it was reasonable to suppose that he might be suspected by the Government of being implicated in their treasonable movements;—he, however, very earnestly protested his innocence, and declared his perfect willingness to submit himself and all his papers to the closest scrutiny and investigation. I replied that for my own part I did not believe that he had either advised or participated in the revolt—and that I was not

aware that any officer of the Government suspected him. I further told him that there was no desire to subject him or his papers to examination, and that I felt quite confident that the Government would not direct any thing of the kind. I then remarked to Mr. Bidwell that although I did not think he was directly concerned in the rebellion, he must feel that he ought not to be surprised if, as he suspected, he were looked upon as a disaffected person. His constant opposition to the Government, and the political principles which he had ever professed and upheld, had without doubt, encouraged the disloyal to persevere in that course of conduct, that had resulted in rebellion—but I more particularly alluded to his letter written to Dr. O'Callaghan, Editor of the Montreal Vindicator, who had since fled the country for Treason, in which letter he expresses himself in the following language:—

“Your great and powerful exertions in the cause of liberty and justice I have noticed with admiration and respect; and I look with deep interest on the struggle in Lower Canada, between an insulted, oppressed, and injured people and their oppressors. ALL HOPE OF JUSTICE FROM THE AUTHORITIES IN ENGLAND SEEMS TO BE EXTINGUISHED.”

I told him it was impossible to read that letter and not feel a moral conviction that the writer's design was to justify the conduct of the disaffected in Lower Canada, who at that time openly and undisguisedly declared their determination traitorously to effect their separation from the Parent State;—revolt had soon after followed in Lower Canada, and it was inconsistent with the terms of his letter to believe he had not approved of it, & most persons undoubtedly believed that such was the fact. Mr. Bidwell replied that his letter was a private communication, and that the extract given was garbled, and that if the context had been published it would not have appeared so objectionable. I said I did not understand how this could well be, but at all events it seemed at variance with the duty of a loyal subject to write in the style he admitted he had written, to a man like Dr. O'Callaghan, who was so notoriously and avowedly disaffected. I understood Mr. Bidwell to express his regret at having written the letter; which he repeated was a private communication, and had been improperly published; and that he did not approve of revolt.

Either the same or the following morning I again met Mr. Bidwell, and mentioned to him that it had been reported to the Lieutenant Governor, that Dr. ROLPH had left the City and had gone to the District of London, and that as he was known to be an intimate friend, and next door neighbour of Dr. Rolph, and was probably acquainted with his movements, I wished to ask him whether he knew the object of his journey to that District. Mr. Bidwell replied that although Dr. Rolph had given out that he intended to go to the District of London, he in fact had not gone there, but that he had gone to the United States. I confess I was startled at this information, for at that time I was not aware that Dr. Rolph was in any way implicated in the rebellion, and I could not understand why he should, as he had done, clandestinely leave the country. Mr. Bidwell told me that Dr. Rolph's reason for going away was two-fold:—first, he feared he might be apprehended and committed

secondly, he was afraid that Mackenzie and other traitors might attempt to send messages and address letters to him, and thus apparently implicate him in their schemes, with which he was resolved to have nothing to do. Without impeaching Mr. Bidwell's veracity, neither of these reasons appeared satisfactory to me. Dr. Rolph had the best evidence given him that he was not suspected, as he had been selected by Sir Francis Head, as the medium of communication between him and the insurgents, and was commissioned to require them in the name of their Sovereign to return to their homes and their allegiance, in which case they would be forgiven. And as to the attempts he apprehended on the part of the insurgents to hold correspondence with him, he had nothing to fear if he were disposed to act as an honest and loyal man should, viz. at once disclose the nature of any treasonable communication that might be made to him. However the matter passed from my mind for the moment, and it was not until some time after Mr. Bidwell left the Province that information was given, that too clearly established a guilty correspondence between Dr. Rolph and the traitors. Had I been aware of this fact at the time I wrote to Mr. Bidwell, I do not think I should have written him the private letter which his friend has published. At the same time I do not wish to be understood that I believe that Mr. Bidwell was aware of Dr. Rolph's traitorous conduct. The sentiments expressed in my letter are those which I sincerely felt for Mr. Bidwell in the private relations of life, and I am anxious to exclude from my mind the suspicions entertained by others, of his want of sincerity.

In the course of the conversation which occurred with Mr. Bidwell on the first or second occasion, I do not recollect which, he spoke of the unpleasant situation in which he found himself by the criminal conduct of the political party with whom he had for so long a time been connected, (or rather, I should say, with that portion of the party that had joined in the revolt,) and he expressed very strongly his wish to leave the Province; so strongly indeed, that it would not in the least have surprised me at any moment to have heard that he had taken the resolution to remove to the country of his birth. I well remember his saying that he had little hope of being restored to happiness while he remained here; and I did not hesitate to tell him that I thought he would do wisely to leave the country—that his professed political opinions were entirely at variance with the monarchical Institutions of England—and that he must now either abandon those opinions, or he constantly subject to annoyances and mortifications of a most unpleasant description. I had no right whatever thus to address Mr. Bidwell, but I did so in the spirit of friendly candor: he well knew what my opinions were of his political character—I had fully and freely stated them on various occasions in the House of Assembly in his presence, but particularly when I offered an ineffectual resistance to his election as Speaker in 1834-5. I then declared my conviction that he was hostile to British Institutions and to British connection, “and referred to facts in support of this opinion”; Mr. Bidwell was of course present, and was surrounded by his friends, who at that time constituted a majority of the Assembly. The sentiments I then expressed I continue to entertain, and it is but just to say that they were

strengt
his let
declara
consequ
to Mr.
I do no
public
or thos
The
was, as
interv
casion
vince
time s
I certa
versati
short t
The C
signs
serts t
compel
Head”
Mr. B
subject
person
sensitive
(in my
friend
cis.
Decem
he says
leave t
him “
Now
ordinar
address
first da
the ver
the Pr
the Ur
and th
Mr. Bi
contain
Bidwel
consider
the m
caution
any thi
avoid i
sincere
dressed

“Stu
of your
to leav
I am
Excell
suspici
tion; a
further
make y
of my d
I am
tigation
fully re
lency's
tempt v
I hav
Excell
(Si
His Ex

strengthened by the perusal of the extracts from his letter addressed to Dr. O'Callaghan. This declaration I feel myself compelled to make in consequence of the publication of my private letter to Mr. Bidwell—the printing of which, however, I do not myself complain of, if placing it before the public has afforded any gratification to Mr. Bidwell or those interested in his welfare.

The next and the last time I saw Mr. Bidwell was, as he passed out of Government House after his interview with Sir Francis Head, and on which occasion he declared his intention to leave the Province for ever. I do not recollect that I at that time spoke to him or he to me—I think not—and I certainly was not aware of the nature of his conversation with Sir Francis Head until I was some short time afterwards told of it by His Excellency. The Correspondent of the Kingston Herald who signs himself "*A United Empire Loyalist*," asserts that "Mr. Bidwell was morally and virtually compelled to leave the Province by Sir Francis Head"—and that he (Sir Francis) had "*robbed Mr. Bidwell of the rights and privileges of a British subject*." And applies epithets to His Excellency personally, as well as to his public conduct, so offensive and unauthorised as very clearly to prove (in my opinion at least,) that he is far less the friend of Mr. Bidwell than the enemy of Sir Francis. Mr. Bidwell also in his letter of the 27th of December last, speaks of his "*banishment*," which he says was "*cruel and unjust*"—and in his letter of the 12th April, he states he was "*compelled*" to leave the Province, and that Sir Francis had done him "*a great and cruel wrong*."

Now I will merely ask any dispassionate man of ordinary understanding to peruse the two letters addressed to Sir Francis Head by Mr. Bidwell, the first dated at Toronto the 8th December, 1837.—the very day on which he determined on leaving the Province—and the second from Lewiston in the United States, on the 11th of the same month, and then ask himself upon what possible ground Mr. Bidwell could venture to make the assertions contained in the letters I have referred to! Mr. Bidwell is admitted on all hands to be a man of considerable talents, and that he well understands the meaning of the words he uses—he also is a cautious man, and is well known never to admit any thing in favour of a political opponent if he can avoid it,—unless, therefore, he be a dishonest or insincere man, he meant what he wrote when he addressed Sir Francis Head, the following letter:—

"Toronto, 8th December, 1837.

"Sir,—In consequence of the kind conversation of your Excellency this morning, I have determined to leave this Province for ever.

I am aware that the circumstances to which your Excellency alluded are calculated to give rise to suspicions against me in relation to this insurrection; and while they would be likely to render my further residence in this Province unpleasant, they make your Excellency's kindness the more worthy of my deep and lasting gratitude.

I am confident, at the same time, that the investigations which will now of course be made, will fully remove these suspicions from your Excellency's mind, and will disprove that any such attempt was in contemplation.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your Excellency's grateful servant.

(Signed) MARSHALL S. BIDWELL.
His Excellency Sir Francis Bond Head."

Here we have the true reason of Mr. Bidwell's determination to leave the Province—the same reason that he gave to myself the day previous for desiring to remove to another country, viz.—That "*suspicious existed against him in relation to the insurrectionary movements which were likely to render his future residence in the Province unpleasant*." Not one word or sentiment is to be traced in this letter that implies in the most remote degree, that Sir Francis Head desired *cruelly and unjustly to banish him*—how can Mr. Bidwell or his friend reconcile this after-thought—this utterly unfounded assertion with his admission that "*His Excellency's kindness was worthy of his deep and lasting gratitude?*" Were it not for his second letter dated Lewiston, the 11th December, Mr. Bidwell or his friends might pretend that he had been coerced into writing that of the 8th, but in this latter communication, when he was freed from all alarms—removed from all undue influence, he begins his letter by stating that he "*avails himself of the first leisure moment at his command, to repeat his acknowledgments for His Excellency's personal regard and good wishes during His Excellency's conversation with him on Friday*." This letter contains other equally strong expressions of gratitude for the kind treatment he had experienced from Sir Francis Head; and although he states that Sir Francis intimated a wish that he should remove from the Province, he nowhere asserts or insinuates that he was coerced into leaving it. Repeating, therefore, what I have already stated, that Mr. Bidwell (being admitted to be a person of good understanding and ability) is either a man of truth and honesty or he is not—if he be a man of truth, then upon his own deliberate admission, *he was not banished from the Province*, but left it because his continuing to reside here would be *unpleasant*;—neither was he *cruelly or unjustly* treated by Sir Francis Head, but the very reverse—if he be not a man of truth or honesty, (which must be the case if he denies the truth of the admission made by him in his letter of the 8th and 11th December,) I take it for granted no person of respectability will feel much concern or interest about him.

There is another point of view in which it is proper that this case should be presented to the public, and it is this:—Assuming it to be true that Sir Francis Head, when he met Mr. Bidwell, told him that he was in possession of several letters addressed to him, which he had not opened; that he was suspected of being concerned in the rebellion, and that unless he agreed to leave the Province, his letters would be opened, and that he would be arrested in consequence of the suspicions entertained against him—what ought to have been, what would have been the answer of a man conscious of innocence and rectitude of conduct? Would he not have spurned the degrading proposal, and claimed, as a matter of right, an immediate and solemn investigation into his conduct? Would a man pure in his own mind and resolved on transmitting the inheritance of an honorable name and unblemished reputation to his children, consent to abandon the country in which he had lived from his infancy, rather than encounter a trial upon a false accusation of being a Traitor? It seems to me impossible—and I have never yet heard political friend or enemy of Mr. Bidwell, with the exception of "*A UNITED EMPIRE LOYALIST*" say, that they would believe that gentleman innocent, if they supposed he left the Province because he was

afraid to submit himself to the judgment of the country upon any charge that might be brought against him. In truth, however, Mr. Bidwell was never threatened with a prosecution—nor was it ever intended that any should be instituted against him, and this I am convinced he well knew. But although such was the feeling entertained towards him by his political opponents, is it *now quite clear* that he was as innocent as they believed him to be? What is the meaning of this disclosure made by his friend and apologist "A UNITED EMPIRE LOYALIST?" "*In the examination of some of the insurgents I have been informed it appeared that they had gone to Mr. Bidwell some time before the insurrection to ask his opinion about the measures recommended by Mackenzie, and Mr. B. replied that he had no opinion to give—that he had altogether retired from politics!*" So then, notwithstanding the duty of his allegiance—notwithstanding the oath he had taken to disclose and make known all traitorous conspiracies against his Sovereign, Mr. Bidwell although apprised of the measures recommended by Mackenzie—although he was asked his opinion of them, felt that he discharged his duty to his country, by merely stating that "*he had no opinion to give—that he had altogether retired from politics!*" If this be true, and most assuredly the communication of "A UNITED EMPIRE LOYALIST," bears internal evidence of having been compiled from facts "*furnished by authority,*" there is ample grounds for supposing that Mr. Bidwell had other and more cogent reasons for leaving Upper Canada than the desire alleged to have been expressed by Sir Francis Head. Any one wishing to obtain the probable explanation of these reasons will find it in any work upon Criminal Law, under the title "Misprision of Treason"—of this crime Mr. Bidwell was guilty, if as his friend states he was informed of the designs of the Traitors before the rebellion, and neglected to disclose them.

I will now close the observations I have felt it my duty to make, by calmly remarking upon the singular inconsistency of "a United Empire Loyalist," in attempting to agitate the public mind at this moment of all others, upon a matter so little entitled to consideration at his hands, if he really have "no fellowship with the leading political opinions" of Mr. Bidwell. It may be, that a United Empire Loyalist is the determined enemy of Sir F. Head & feels gratification in assailing his policy upon every occasion when he thinks he can excite feelings of hostility against it; but it may be asked, is it becoming, or is it manifesting a decent respect for the strongly and unequivocally expressed wishes of the loyal inhabitants of this Province of all parties, that peace and harmony should be restored to it, to endeavour to rouse into angry and indignant display, the same passions and the same party spirit, that has so recently been subdued, and which while it existed produced the most disastrous results? I feel satisfied that the great body of the people of this Province deprecate the discussion which "A United Empire Loyalist" is attempting to excite. Every one knows that if Mr. Bidwell has had injury done him, redress is open to him through other and more legitimate channels than angry discussion in a newspaper, and it will be difficult for the Correspondent of the Herald to persuade his readers that a disinterested desire to obtain justice for an al-

leged wrong, is the true reason for his address to the public.

Sir Francis Head is absent from this Province, having voluntarily resigned the Government into the hands of his Sovereign. His administration is now matter of history, and it is the right of every one to discuss it, and express his opinion upon its merits. The imperfectibility of human nature forbids the belief that he, at all times and upon all occasions, pursued that course of policy which in the event proved entirely free from error. But there is one point upon which every candid and upright man must agree, viz his ardent, sincere, and enthusiastic attachment to British Institutions, and British connection. When he arrived in this Province he found a party in the ascendant whose political opinions he believed were hostile to the maintenance of the authority of his Sovereign, and to the real and permanent interests of the people he was appointed to govern. With a noble courage and unflinching resolution he devoted his vigorous and active mind to the redemption of the country from the baneful influence by which it was kept in constant agitation, its best interests betrayed, and its energies paralyzed. He commenced his measures by a calm and dignified appeal to the reason & good feeling of the opponents of the government; he was met with insult & scorn—& at length the long deluded Electors saw that they had been yielding their support to the enemies of their cherished Constitution, & not to those who honestly aimed at advancing their welfare; & they called upon Sir Francis Head to relieve them from the discredit of being represented by men who had so grossly deceived them. He complied with their Petitions, and a political regeneration was accomplished in this Province, such as probably was never before witnessed in any other Colony, and at the moment Sir Francis Head left Upper Canada distinction of political parties might be said to have been annihilated.—Do we then owe the man who has afforded us the opportunity of gaining for ourselves these important advantages, and relieving our character from the foul charge of disloyalty that had been preferred against it, no debt of gratitude, no feeling of thankfulness and respect for the good he has done for us, and which he did not hesitate to peril his own person, character, and fortune in achieving? Is it because a difference of opinion may exist upon some abstract question, or some isolated point of policy, that all which previously commanded our admiration & approval, is to be blotted out from our recollection, & the moment his back is turned, the language of applause is to be changed to that of condemnation? I have too good an opinion of the moral honesty and generous feelings of my fellow subjects in Upper Canada, to believe that they will approve of the attempt to fasten such an imputation upon them, however plausibly or earnestly urged; and I entertain the confident belief that they will resist every attempt, however speciously made, to draw them into political discussions, which can be productive of no good, but may lead to infinite evil. The public mind requires tranquillity and repose, and whoever attempts to prevent its perfect establishment is an enemy to his country.

Your obdient Servant,
C. A. HAGERMAN.

Toronto, 17th May, 1838.

Address to

his Pro-
Govern-

His ad-

It is the

press his

ability of

me, at all

at course

entirely

point upon

st agree,

e attach-

a connec-

he found

opinions

enance of

the real

was ap-

rage and

orous and

ntry from

ot in con-

d, and its

measures

n of good

t; he was

ong delu-

ding their

Constitu-

advancing

ncis Head

ng repre-

ved them.

a political

Province,

nessed in

r Francis

political

hilated.—

led us the

se impor-

cter: from

en prefer-

o feeling

the good

not hes-

cter, and

difference

question,

hich prev-

oval, is to

the moment

ause is to

I have too

and gener-

Upper Ca-

of the at-

pon them,

and I en-

will resist

e, to draw

can be pro-

finite evil,

nd repose,

fect estab-

rvant,

RMAN.

