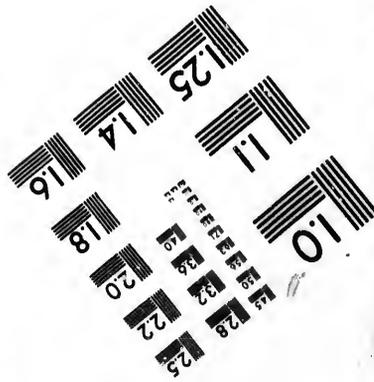
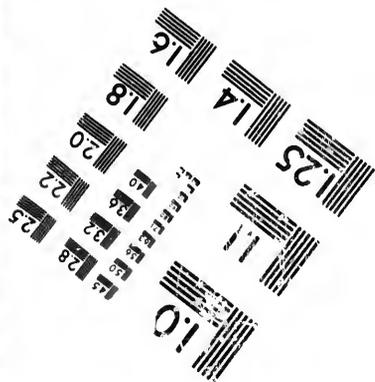
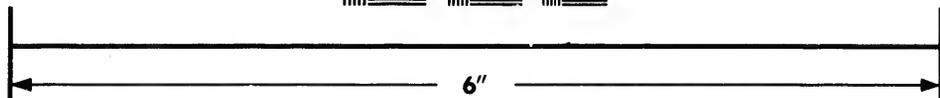
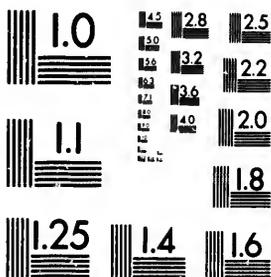


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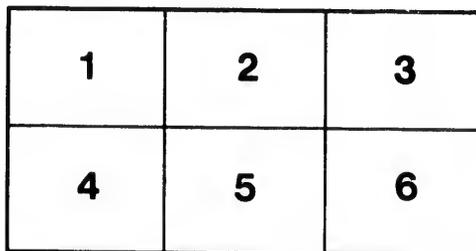
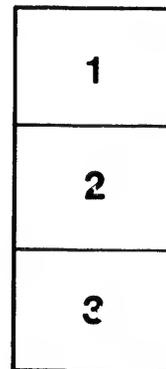
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# ESSAY

ON

*Modern Reformers ;*

ADDRESSED

TO THE PEOPLE OF UPPER-CANADA.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

A LETTER,

To Mr. Robert Gourlay :

BY

JOHN SIMPSON,

AUGUSTA, UPPER-CANADA.

.....  
GRATIS.

---

KINGSTON :

PRINTED BY STEPHEN MILES.

---

1818.

TO THE PUBLIC.

*The Author trusts that the common reader of the following Pages will not withhold the time necessary for the perusal, at least of the letter to Mr. Gourlay.*

*It is circulated gratis, that no invidious observations, from the opposite party, may stigmatize the author with the profit of Book making, a leading feature in the publications now teeming against the Government.*

*Neither the labor of composition, or the expense of the work, will be begrudged to those who will read it.*

*To the refined and classic reader, who may object to the inaccuracies of style, or the inelegancies of expression, it is hoped that the short space of two days, all that could be allowed for the writing and printing the letter will be a sufficient apology for the many faults it contains.*

AUGUSTA, Upper Canada,  
June the 1st, 1818.

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# ESSAY

ON

## *Modern Reformers.*

**I**F I were to address the People of this Province to warn them against the baneful effects of modern reform it should be in the following words.

“Amongst the devices by which public attention may be excited, and public compassion awakened, towards those, whom, neither genius, nor industry, nor virtue, would have forced into distinction, the most frequent, and, perhaps, the most successful, is the art of connecting illegal transactions with popular pursuits, and rendering the Administration of Government odious, by complaint and clamour against those denials, which have been deservedly, nay often designedly, incurred.

There are a species of offenders in this country, who claim merit from the avowal of deliberate malignity; whose public virtue is distinguished only by an opposition to public justice, and whose policy consists in taking advantage of that disposition in some minds, that considers all government as an oppression—that feels all subordination as a misery. Such a disposition, inflamed by popular clamour, and directed to the purposes of faction, has often counteracted the ends of justice, by converting its sentence into reward; and the desperate rioter, the malicious libeller, and the treasonable unpenitent of

sedition, have been enabled to revel in the dainties of a luxurious imprisonment, and thrive, on the revenue of a profitable pillory.

There is another source of advantage to this first and lowest species of reformers, in the topics of eloquence they often furnish, and the popularity they sometimes procure, to parties, adverse to Government, they may be considered as lesser instruments, as subordinate wheels, in the great and complicated machine of opposition; the duties and services required by the system of party are so various and even opposite in their natures, as to demand abilities of every degree, and characters of every denomination. There are some invectives too indecent, some accusations too malevolent, some expressions too shameless, and some falsehoods too dangerous, to be propagated by any but the lowest drudges of faction. The architect, however accurate his judgment, however elegant his taste, must be indebted for the execution of his plans, to the humble labours of meaner artificers; and since the mighty fabricators of sedition cannot, themselves, accomplish every mischief they project, they must, on some occasions, purchase the assistance of hirelings, to whom treason is a practical trade, and scurrility a daily occupation.

To illustrate this theory by examples, may seem almost superfluous in an age so fertile in Political Reformers. Thus the Colossal power of opposition in England extend their influence into the minutest ramifications, and delegate an obscure and unfashioned individual to co-operate in the treasonable design of estranging the affections, and weakening the allegiance of this Colony. Thus, the Committee of almost every Township, and the Printer of almost every Newspaper, feed on the hope, or enjoy the recollection, of authority insulted, or justice provo-

ked; speculate on the profit of sufferings, and pant for the celebrity of persecution. Persecution, the ever successful pretence by which contending factions have alternately triumphed; by which, in the days of Cromwell, a good and legitimate Monarch was beheaded, and a legitimate line was deferred; by which, in the days of Washington, a world was lost; by which, the most celebrated adventurers of our own times, have been enabled, through a course of beneficial punishments, to attain the highest object of lucrative ambition,—to derive safety and subsistence from exile, the enjoyment of luxuries, and the discharge of debts from imprisonment, and the *firm possession of Parliamentary honors from expulsion.*

A second species of political reformation, more hazardous indeed, but often productive of greater emolument than the former, consists in the noble and disinterested profession of relinquishing some present advantage in the supposed certain prospect of exalted power or more ample profit. To sacrifice the profession of a lucrative employment, wears, at the first glance, so strong an appearance of sincerity, that we almost overlook the folly of unsteadiness, and forget the treachery of desertion; yet, on a nearer view of circumstances, and character, we shall not consider the Political Reformer merely as a convert to false popularity, but as a refined (though often disappointed) speculatist, who weighs the chances of events, and calculates the fluctuations of power, with an almost arithmetical nicety.

This examination will serve as a clue, by which many of the most intricate mazes in political conduct, may be easily unravelled. Timidity alone, for instance, might be deemed a sufficient cause, when an unpopular Reformer, who calls a meeting to remove “slandrous aspersions,” who, when the tide of

conviction is swelling in the minds of a before pre-possessed audience, abruptly deserts his associates, and shrinks, on the first alarm of decreasing influence. But should we observe the same character, after a temporary shelter from the storm, return to a more elevated, though less responsible situation, it will then become apparent that a wise regard for the main chance of life almost equally ballances the fond attention to personal security. Should we, in process of time, see the same character, on the next appearance of ill success, veer with the gale of fortune, court and combine with his old and inveterate enemies, condemn the measures he had suggested, and vilify the persons with whom he had acted, accuse, with more than factious rancour, and threaten, with worse than patriotic scurrility, we shall then admit that nothing can be wanting to the completion of such a character; we shall then look back with wonder at the steps, by which he has reached a summit of political infamy, unknown before; and the mind of an honest spectator, shocked by the example of perfidy, shamed by the outrage of decency, will find no other quiet, than, in reconciling indignation with contempt.

A third species of Political Reformers would be deemed too ludicrous to deserve notice, did not the support they receive originate in a very dangerous, as well as a very curious system of modern policy. These are the self created Reformers, the self proclaimed victims to political restraints, who court the public favor by instilling the idea of imaginary wants, of visionary sufferings & fancied privations; who elevate political enthusiasm to treasonable mania; and thus, with ability not above the ordinary attainments of a Sunday School education, and the persevering industry of the mole, (whose underminings,

like the Reformers, is in the dark and the dirt) can convert former allegiance into a hostile and never ceasing enmity, and finish their career, with the exultation of a Demon, on the scaffold.

In the front of this venerable band, appears the modern remover of Political restraints, the redresser of grievances, armed with recriminating invectives, shielded by new formed connections, stored with voluminous harrangues, arrayed with all the pomp of burlesque enquiries, and adorned with all the trophies of partial approbation. In vain would common sense oppose her strength against the power of Revolutionary eloquence, in vain might she represent that true patriotism would require no aid from the refinements of sophistry, that real exploits would borrow no ornament from the pomp of declamation, that the Patriots of former days established their glory, and extended the empire of their country, not by tedious recitals, not by seditious meetings, but by actual and effectual enterprizes; that the proofs of patriotic service did not then rest upon the opinion of friendly witnesses or self ejaculated panegyrics, but on the records of impartial History, by the grateful applause of their countrymen, or the universal sense of mankind. Vain indeed would be such arguments with those who deem it their interest to conjure up ideal accusations, to complain of fancied oppressions, and represent as mere insinuations of a Government, that dissatisfaction and disgust which their own conduct has inspired in this Colony. The obstinate adherents to ancient prejudice would rejoice in some instance of ardour obedient to the direction of judgment and caution, invigorated by the alacrity of zeal.—In their weak apprehensions, though treason might often be picied, and error sometimes atoned, yet beneficial re-

Ult, and distinguished success could alone warrant claim to applause and admiration. And indeed there is some plausibility in this mode of reasoning, nor will it be very easy to find an instance in which its truth has been called in question, from the days of Catiline to Cromwell, and from Cromwell to Watson.

The fact is, the principles of fame are nearly inverted by the ingenuity of modern time; the patriotism of the modern Reformers commences from their disappointments. There is a gradual and equal progress in their disappointments; and their blame, and their private animosity, is elevated in proportion, as the public interest advances. Thus, the refusal of a grant of land, from the Land Office of Upper Canada, is no slight omen of the rising merit of our Colonial Reformer; who, lured with 17 years of indefatigable employment in opposition at home, shall, with the most pure and immaculate motives of tumultuary reformation here, like a Political Messiah, save us from the destruction of overwhelming corruption, and renew the primitive simplicity of manners and civilization. Then indeed may he claim applause, inferior only to the honors of that Reformer, who, by seditious publications, and harangues, may congratulate himself of having strengthened domestic revels, and encouraged foreign hostility.

What, though the testimony of public applause be wanting to commemorate their services! yet the partiality of friends, the interest of dependants, and the fury of party zealots, shall raise a clamour, loud at least, if not universal, vehement, if not sincere. The thunder of party eloquence shall auspiciously aid their revenge; and their brows, though not encircled with laurel, shall yet be adorned with all the

honorable insignia of an elevated Pillory.

To enumerate fully, and describe minutely, the several inferior classes of Reformers, would perhaps, be an endless, as well as irksome task. The disappointment of extravagant prospects, the denial of unreasonable requests, the apprehension of fancied injuries, excite conflicts of a thousand restless passions, too strongly implanted in our nature. And as, on such occasions, we are not always inclined to judge with perfect impartiality, or to trace the disquiet of our minds to its original source, every refusal to promote ambition, to dignify pride, to enrich avarice, to abet injustice, or even to flatter self conceit, instantly becomes a topic of bitter complaint, and a ground of inveterate enmity. Such are the characters extolled—such are the measures adopted,—and such the instruments employed by parties, who have distinguished themselves of late years by a furious and unremitting opposition to Government; who, by inflammatory speeches, perverse interpretations, and interested cabals, have not much contributed to heal those public evils, so frequently lamented, and so industriously exposed.

To distinguish those classes of men, who, though adverse to Government, cannot be friends to freedom, to detect the arts of hypocrisy, and to expose the pretences of imposture, is, surely, an undertaking worthy of some approbation, when prompted by truth, or performed with sincerity. If, as we are told, that it is only by an union of the purest intentions, of the wisest councils, of the most active and vigorous measures, that national dignity can be now restored, or national ruin averted, we must scrupulously examine the character of every candidate for power, of every competitor for fame and distinction. And yet, though neither discretion, nor decency,

admit us rashly to pronounce on their several degrees of virtue and ability, yet it requires little consideration to point out some, in whom public confidence ought never to abide. It requires little experience to assure ourselves, that those who most vehemently *oppose*, are not, for that *reason*, alone the fittest to direct the measures of Government; nor ought vice to be honored, malevolence praised, or treachery rewarded, merely because the person adorned with such qualities, employs them in the glorious service of opposition.

To proclaim the errors, and triumph in the failures of Government, have long been the favorite topics of party declamation; and there never, perhaps, was a time in which so loose a reign was given to the impetuosity of political resentment. That men, who have so little regard for the credit and repose of others, should arrogate to themselves an *invulnerable sanctity*, is a caprice, so unaccountably ridiculous, so preposterously unjust, that it must be left to their *own explanation*; for should a single error in their conduct be shewn, should the *abilities* of the *meanest*, or the *integrity* of the *best of their phalanx*, be called for a moment into question, the sacrilegious attempt shall draw on its devoted author, the harshest epithets that ever were combined by rhetorical acrimony. But it is not by any illiberal imputation that disgrace can be affixed to the freedom of just enquiries, and remarks: an impartial observer, will rather applaud the justice of those who mark the features of political treachery, and develope the intrigues of factious cabal, in whatever party they discern them; who, by an honest endeavor to separate false pretences from real merit, by warning their country against malignity, never to be countenanced, and perfidy, never to be trusted, have made

it the leading object of their brains to enhance the value of patriotism, and to exalt the dignity of virtue."

---

TO ROBERT GOURLAY, Esq.

HAVING in the preceding Essay, made some general observations upon that class of reformers to which you belong, permit me now to advance one step further and to address myself more particularly to you.

If in the following remarks I shall in any way over step the es-  
pialier of liberal discussion, or trespass beyond that decorum which one gentleman expects from another, though I may be liable to censure from the partial peruser of these pages, you, I am sure with that *candour*, that *ingenuousness* which pervades the whole tenor of your *Political strictures*, that *modest unassuming stile*, which so *honorably* characterises *your letters*; you I say, will allow that I am induced only to vary from the old fashioned prejudices so foolishly adhered to by the Literati of other days, out of compliment to your manner and veneration for your example.

A compassionate regard for the feelings of others and common delicacy in your abuse of those who differed with you in political sentiment, might have protected you from either censure or attack, but since you have been so officious in vilifying the conduct and misrepresenting the principles and character of those who refused the wished for answer to your first address, it may not be improper, it may not be surprising that your *own* character should now undergo the fullest investigation.

You have come all the way from Niagara in search of the character you lost by our reply: Diogenes, the Cynic, with rather more of the Philosopher than I apprehend appertains to you is reported to have walked during mid-day, with a lantern, in search of an honest man; Diogenes returned without *this* object, you I fear will have a like successful embassy. I hope I shall be pardoned for the mention of a classical allusion, a fault which you so pertinaciously omit. I have incurred your displeasure and the charge of illiberality, by receiving your first address as the

standard of your political principles ; I will not persevere in the same illiberality, by receiving your recent productions as the standard of your Collegiate embellishments ; you have asserted your Academical advantages, and therefore I am bound to believe you although your compositions will never convict you.

In the first place, I shall not be induced to travel "out of the Record," I will not, with whatever advantage might result from the more perfect display of your Political character for the last 37 years, go back, but commence with your political descent here, the era of discontent and faction in Upper Canada.

In your first address, you make a parade of "certain political restraints to improvement," this you have since speciously endeavoured to explain by asserting that the political restraints to improvement related only to the "Lands of non-residents not being taxed." This appears to have satisfied your scientific adherents, but a little attention to the first rudiments of your University acquirements, would have taught that one does not constitute the plural and therefore your boasted "political restraints" is either a falsehood in fact or a falsehood in grammar.

I will pass over your murder of 20,000 men, though you have not condescended to explain that point, I will pass over your willing degradation of the human species, by their employment at Wapping, a part of London, from whence probably you derived your Academical degrees, deserved a "fellowship," and completed your Political Education on arriving at the honor of—"Senior Wrangler."

Consistency is, by a system of modern refinement, considered to be the life and soul of political disquisition, as necessary even as truth to the patriots of the present day ; how then will your sapient supporters, the enlightened "worthies" of the Western District reconcile your Political apostacy in the following sentences. "*At home we have experienced evils, we know that influences are there, which war against the principles of the Constitution and counteract its most benevolent designs. Here,*" (mark in Canada,) "*we are free from such influences, we are perfectly contented and a fine field lies open for cultivating the best fruits of civil and religious liberty.*" See Address, dated October 19, 1817.

"Gentlemen, the Constitution of this Province is in danger & all the blessings of social compact are running to waste. For three years the laws have been thwarted and set aside by Executive power, for three sessions your Legislators sat in assembly, and given sanction to the monstrous, the hideous abuse." "Do you expect any thing from a new set of representatives ; here a-

gain you will be deceived. It is not the men, it is the system that blasts every hope of good, and till that system is overturned, it is in vain to expect any thing of value from change of representatives or Governor." See letter dated April 2, 1818.

There are some inconsistencies too glaring, some assertions too malignant, and some reasoning too fallacious to require refutation; yet when the cause of truth, liberty or religion is concerned, exposure may be necessary, exposure may be even desirable.

In Oct. 1817, the people of Canada are "free of those influences which war against the principles of the Constitution, and counteract its most benevolent desigus."

In a few short months, like Hamlet's mother, all this change is effected, at least published by you, and yet you say for three years preceeding, this corrupt influence, this Fara of Government has been carrying on, for three sessions our Legislators have given sanction to this monstrous, this hideous abuse, and nothing can be effected by change of Governors, Lords or Commons.

I ne'er hear'd yet

That any of the bolder vices wanted  
Less impudence to gainsay what they did,  
Than to perform it first.

Oh! Glorious standard of Political consistency! Oh matchless proof of the sincerity of your Elementary ethics.

We are ordered by the Mosaic law, not to set up any Brazen images to ourselves; how the good people of the Western District can reconcile their worship of you, with the commands of the decalogue, I leave for them to determine.

"Well, time is the old justice that examines all such offenders."

You say "it has been the cant of time immemorial to make mystery of the art of Government. The folly of the million and the cunning of the few in power, have equally strengthened the reigning belief, but it is false, deceitful and ruinous. The people of every nation may at any time put down either domestic tyranny or abuse. They may at any time lay a simple foundation for public prosperity, they have only to be honest and in their honesty bold."

Here sir, you have passed the Rubicon. Here you have attained the grave climacteric of Revolutionary ambition: Here is the renewal of the old cry of Revolutionary France, Egalite.

You appeal to the ignorant, rouse the inanimate and insidiously promulgate supposititious oppressions, that you may invigorate the irresolute and instigate the tranquil, with the most pro-

trusive officiousness, you disseminate your poison, that you may enjoy the consummation of Rebellious distinction.

In this you bear no small resemblance to your immortal Prototype Cromwell : He was ordained by nature to gain the confidence of men by what was mean, vulgar, and ridiculous. Familiar even to buffoonery, servile even to contempt, he omitted no measures, however vile, no steps, however degrading, to strengthen his cause. Hating Monarchy while a subject, and liberty while a citizen. He was secretly plotting the way for the more perfect establishment of his own unlimited authority. You would reduce the arcana of Political ethics to the capacity of a school boy, and the forms of Government to the routine of a Counting House occupation.

You next tell us, that the British Constitution is "that beautiful contrivance by which the people, when perfectly virtuous, become all powerful." Ridiculous contexture of unintelligible jargon. This possibly too has had the commendatory effusions of your Political admirers ; it may pass with them for the very harmony of political dissertation—the very euphony of language,—the very sublimity of the sublime ; but I will be bold enough to say, the confusion of Babel before the flood, the Hebrew, the Chaldaea, and Arabic, are simple and intuitive, compared with your idea of the British Constitution ; I will further say, that Great Britain will never have a Constitution if it depends on that event. It is not in human nature to become all virtuous. It is not in any people to become omnipotent.

Now Sir, the Constitution of Great Britain is an institution of early times refined and finished by succeeding ages, it is a superstructure of King, Lords, and Commons. It consists in the harmonious proportions of power and protection, assistance and support, security of property, and allegiance to the Throne, immunity from oppression, and submission to the Laws. It has the Magna Charta for its Base, and you for one of its disturbers.

The British Constitution you say, "has provided for its own improvement in peace and quietness, it has given us the right of petitioning the Prince or Parliament." I acknowledge it, but we are represented in Parliament and the moderate and proper course, (if we had grievances,) would be to petition through this medium. We are not to vociferate invented or ideal injuries in clamour, or menace in the signature of millions, the feelings of Royalty, or the subversion of the Government ; for if we were, we should, in the elegant and classical phraseology of your own Letter, "bother" all competition indeed.

I shall not condescend to comment upon that part of your Let-

ter, where you crave the charitable contribution of a dollar from each signature. True charity when it denies the boon withholds its reflections; but the necessary *orgia of Palmestry* will restrain many from their inconsiderate signature.

The people of this Colony are infinitely indebted to you for the parallel you have drawn in favor of the Government of the United States, and to your prophetic anticipation "of destruction and defeat in the event of another war," but Sir, the warnings of Prophets and Fortune tellers, has long since been disregarded, and indeed the *Law, the British Constitution, "that beautiful contrivance, &c. &c. has humanely taken care of them, under the act relating to Rogues, Vagabonds, &c.*

In the scheme you propose, you will accept of no appointment! Philanthropic and disinterested indeed. King Richard refused the trouble of a Crown.

*"Alas, why would you heap those cares on me,  
I am unfit for State and Majesty;  
I do beseech you, take it not amiss,  
I cannot, and I will not, yield to you."*

Yet he was prevailed on. And you might perhaps, when entreated as the fittest man—as the contriver—the constructor of the bark—be disposed to "wax" a little, and not continue "contumacious," you might, with all the graceful elegance of a provincial dialect, say,

*"Since you will buckle fortune on my back,  
To bear her burden whe'r I will or no,  
I must have patience to endure the load."*

Were it necessary I could add other instances of the magnanimity of resolves, and the puerility of execution.

"When I found my Petition set aside, and despised at York, I despatched one immediately to be presented to the House of Commons in England, to call attention there to Canadian affairs. All this will go for little if something is not done." Here you really do discover the true inspiration of Prophecy, and I hope the event will justify your skill in augury.

You speak of your schemes having been discountenanced by Ministers at home, of speculations of making the best bargain for these Provinces with the United States, of disgusting surmises, &c. &c. and you say you know from whence all this proceeds. You do; and so do I. No one can tell so well by whom the building is destroyed as the incendiary himself.

These Reports originate, centre in, and are manufactured by you and your facetious supporters in England.

I shall now dismiss your Epistle of the 2d of April, without observation upon your egotistical display of the Nominative Pronoun.

And now Sir, I am in the situation of a Traveller, who, having waded through dirty lanes and intricate windings, finds himself at the next state, in one more deep, dirty, dark, sad and dangerous, your Petition.

The Subjects of His Majesty, dwelling in Upper Canada, need give no assurance of their Loyalty and attachment to the Throne of their Sovereign, their attachment has been best evinced by the peaceful tenor of their lives, and their loyalty best attested under the achievements of a Drummond and a Harvey, and perpetuated in the records of a Brock.

No one will deny the people of Upper Canada the Laurels they obtained in the war. The sacrifice of heroes restrains the glory of conquest, and the tear that bedews the eye of the widow and the orphan is hardly compensated by the glory of their fall.

You tell us that "Government transactions, which used to give spirit to trade and industry, are at a stand, that troops are withdrawn, fortifications suffered to go to ruin; and rumours are abroad too shocking to be repeated in the Royal ear."

Amongst the perplexities incident to Government, there are few perhaps, more prejudicial and offensive, than the inconsiderate and illiterate assaults of party declamation. To leave no effort untried, no private scandal uncirculated, or miscarriage undivulged, is the chief purpose of factious resentment, and the primary object of political controversy. To disclose secrets of no benefit when discovered, to traduce character unimpeachable, because connected with Government, is the enviable distinction of all Modern Reformers.

In England at this moment popular clamour is directed to the *expensive* transactions of Government, and the most violent opposition is excited, the most reproachful accusations are reflected and the most ornamental figures of virulent abuse and misrepresentation are exhausted towards the abolition of a standing Army. Thus, while in this Colony we are Petitioning for the disbursements of Government, the standing Army and war establishments, the people of England are remonstrating against them as unreasonable hardships, and infringements of the Constitution: we are petitioning for *expenditure* we are *unwilling to defray*, and for the *employment of troops* we are *unwilling to support*; thus in one sentence we unite *meanness to supplication*, and *insult to misfortune*.

The Paternal ear of Royalty thinks no rumour too shocking to be repeated, when connected with the happiness and prosperity of her people. But the treasonable dispenser of sedition, and the malevolent encouragers of Rebellion, may *recoil* at the sound of their own machinations, and tremble at the devastation they would promote.

“The young men of this Province, who were armed in its defence, had, for their spirited conduct, the promise of their Commanders that Land would be granted them as a reward for their services.”

I will not for a moment pay the young men of this Province, so ill a compliment as to believe they wanted any such stimulent, — their homes, their honor, and every thing they held dear was a sufficient excitement, and they VOLUNTEERED to go beyond the Frontier. I defy you to prove any such promise on the part of Government. The commander in Chief promised to recommend them for Land and he did so. I will not say what the Captains and subordinate officers may have promised. It is very well understood in what manner the recruiting service is conducted, all over the world : their zeal might have carried them beyond their discretion, but the sanguine promises of individuals, unauthorised by government, can never implicate it. But although they were not promised Land, the most undeserving among them were he to Petition, would receive his land before the inflammatory Petition from you would reach the Royal ear.— They may attain their wishes yet ; to defer is not to refuse : but if they signed the Petition before them, the Laurel they bled to gain shall lose a portion of its freshness, their verdant wreath shall become withered and tainted by the air of Rebellion.

Disgusted by the dissection of Treason, and the investigation of abuse, and tired with a duty grateful to no feeling, I rejoice that your pernicious designs and traitorous attempts have found no sympathy in the minds of the people of this Township.

When *Catiline* was projecting the ruin of Rome, Cicero, commanded him to leave the City, that if their Laws could not protect them, their walls might. I wish intelligent and active Magistrates would follow so good an example ; your writings, conduct and discourses furnish ample opportunity.

To these your warm admirers and partizans who may captiously urge that I have not replied to every part of your letter, &c. I wish them in candour to believe, that it is not the difficulty which prevents the most ample refutation. Some striking outlines are requisite, for the effect of Representation, it is not necessary to constitute the character or the beauty of a tree, that

every leaf should be delineated. But can the good people of UpperCanada really imagine there to be any probability of a Petition couched in the language of the one before them, reaching even the precincts of the Throne; a Petition breathing more the spirit and denunciation of war, than the humble Remonstrance of a suffering or agrieved people. Can they expect assistance from the efforts of one avowedly and confessedly at variance with the Ministers of our mother country.

It is the property of sorrowing virtue to entreat for the alleviation of affliction, to assuage and restrain the tumults of rising passion. It is the imposter alone, the shameless mendicant who makes noisy and indecent demonstrations of grief.

I will now, Sir, quit the subject, hoping that I may have convinced some, though it may have had no effect upon you; your principles I fear are too confirmed, your opposition too rooted and your career too far involved to admit of retreat with decency or respect. You have reached a summit that may attain celebrity, though it prevent virtue, temporarily enrich, though it forbid happiness and confer popularity, yet leave you wretched.

Erostratus fired the Ephesian temple that he might by the extraordinary action of *His* villany have his name remembered.— If you are successful in your attempt of REVOLUTIONIZING this Colony you may enjoy the like detestation and immortality,

“ There is a class of men, for whom I, have the greatest respect, and whom I am anxious to preserve from the contamination of your disloyalty, the merchants, manufacturers and tradesmen of this Country. I consider the influence of the example of this class as essential to the welfare of the community. I know that they are in general given to reading and desirous of information on all subjects. If this little book should chance to fall into their hands after they have read yours, and they should think that any of your objections have not been fully answered; I entreat them to attribute the omission to the brevity which I have studied; to my desire of avoiding learned disquisitions;— to my inadvertency; to my inability; to any thing rather than an impossibility of completely obviating every difficulty you have brought forward. I address the request to such of the youth of both sexes, as may unhappily have imbibed from your writings the poison of disloyalty; beseeching them to believe that every doubt may be removed though it may not have been in my power to answer to their satisfaction all your objections. I pray God that the rising generation of this land may be preserved from that taint which has brought ruin on a neighbouring nation; that neither a domestic education, nor domestic irreligion, nor evil

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communication, nor the fashion of a licentious world may ever induce them to forget Religion and Loyalty which ought to be their rules of life."

I am Sir,

Your most ob't. Hble Servt.

JNo. SIMPSON.

*Augusta, June 1, 1818.*

FINIS.

