

THE SCRIBBLER.

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Primum igitur leges oportet contendere, considerando, utra lex ad majores, hoc est ad utiliores, ad honestiores, et magis necessarias res pertineat. Ex quo conficitur, ut, si leges duæ, aut si plures, aut quotquot erunt, conservari non possint, quia discrepent inter se, ea maxime conservanda putetur, quæ ad maximas res pertinere videatur.

CICERO.

In taking different laws and customs into consideration it is of the first importance to look to which the preference is due, that is, which is most useful, most virtuous, and most necessary. Whence it follows that if there are two or more laws or customs that are in contradiction to each other, and can not be both observed, then that alone must be obeyed or followed, which appears to have the most important and most general benefits in view.

Quæ regio in terris nostra non pleni laboris? VIRGIL.

Where is the region which our labours reach not?

Difficile est satiram non scribere. JUVENAL.

Not to write satire's scarcely possible.

TRIAL FOR LIBEL, *abstract of, continued from No. 99.*

'I am here, too, gentlemen,' continued the defendant, 'in a still more important character, that of a champion for one of your dearest rights, and most valued privileges,—a champion for the freedom of the press.—I am an advocate for a 'press free to discuss all subjects fit for the public eye,—privileged to tell every truth, and every fact, which it concerns the public to know.' I contend for the freedom of that press which gives to individuals the power of exposing and punishing offences which no other power can reach, and which every individual has an interest in suppressing—such as assaults upon our liberties by bad rulers—frauds upon the public by corrupt and unprincipled agents—knaves who, dressed in a little brief authority, grow rich at the expense of honest men.

—who hold the keys of the exchequer, and rob its vaults. I contend for a press free to expose all inroads upon public morals, by daring and ostentatious innovators—insults to common taste and good sense by bad authors—shameless quacks, and ignorant pretenders. These are crimes against the public, which no judicial tribunal can reach or punish. These are offences committed where civil authority has no jurisdiction. There is no domestic retreat so secure, there is no public sanctuary so holy, that it can not be invaded by the unhallowed or lawless foot, or poisoned by the pestiferous breath, of the hypocrite. Even the church,

God's lovely temple, sees the villain there,
With eye upturn'd, and aspect false as fair—
E'en at the altar's very horns he stands,
And breaks and blesses with polluted hands.

You will perhaps be told that the liberty for which I contend is the licentiousness of the press. It is fashionable to declaim about this licentiousness, and to whine and whimper, to storm and to threaten, about the mischiefs which flow from an unshackled freedom of discussion; but this is mere declamation. The licentiousness of the press is a bugbear which has no existence but in the imagination of those who are conscious of their own wickedness, and dread nothing but exposure—whose anxiety is, not to leave a crime undone, but to keep its commission unknown; who fear not the wrath of heaven or the justice of the almighty avenger, but tremble at the reproach of a satirist, and dare as soon beard the eternal devil on his throne, as encounter a newspaper paragraph. It is said to be difficult to draw the line between the liberty and the licentiousness of the press. This, too, is false. Public opinion has already drawn the line. It has placed metes and bounds, and said, thus far shalt thou go, and no farther. It has thrown a spell around the upright, the virtuous, and the holy, which no licentious printer can invade, nor the shafts of his malice transpierce—and when such a one attempts to drag the pure and the honest from their sanctuary, he is instantly pursued, overtaken and punished by public indignation. What has virtue to fear from the licentiousness of the press? Whoever heard,—is there an instance on record—is there one in the memory of man—of a virtuous and upright person, who suffered the loss of property or reputation by this imaginary licentiousness of the press? No, gentlemen,

*This was very well as a declamation in defence, addressed both to the passions and the reason of the jurymen; but it will not stand the test of sound reflection. It is none but a "faultless monster," whom all the world concur in believing and knowing to be immaculately virtuous in all points, that can be wholly invulnerable by a false and malicious libel; not the mixed characters of which the bulk of mankind is composed. In many

the hypocrite, whose character is formed of such cobweb materials, that it can not bear the hissing of a newspaper squib, may skulk behind an indictment for protection; but the man whose heart is pure, and whose laws are clean, has a character composed of more enduring qualities—the arrows of ridicule or of malice drop harmless at his feet; the ingredients of the poisoned chalice that had been mingled for him, return to plague the inventor; he stands upon a rock, unshaken, unseduced, unterrified; an object of love and admiration to men; an object on which heaven itself may look down with reverence.”

Mr. Buckingham then, after offering a few remarks upon the testimony he intended to produce, and that of which circumstances had deprived him, concluded his defence in these words.

“Gentlemen of the jury, I am already in your power; and I commit myself, (not to your *mercy*, for that is an attribute, appertaining exclusively to the bench,) but to your *justice*. It is for you to decide on my fate. It is for you to say whether I shall leave this place honourably and triumphantly, or covered with shame and degradation. It is for you to say, whether I shall go hence to my home, to enjoy the affection, and partake of the sympathies of my wife, to meet the embraces, and receive the kisses of my children; or to the common gaol, that disgusting receptacle of infamy, pollution, and crime. It is for you to decide, whether I shall continue, for the little remainder of my life, to be a member of society, to unite with you in its pleasures, to share with you its honours, to suffer with you in its dangers, and to aid you in its defence; or to have my name blotted from the catalogue of men, a reproach to the good and virtuous, a byword to the vulgar, and the vile; while my person shall be buried alive in yonder prison,—that moral sepulchre, where many a man, (I tremble even to think of it,) where many a pure and honest man has been despoiled of all the refined, and elevated,

cases an unjust loss of reputation, and pecuniary injury, may arise from defamation publicly disseminated by the press, which the injured party, for want of pecuniary means of prosecuting, or of the ability or opportunity of publicly refuting, may for years suffer under. It is true years of subsequent rectitude of conduct, and irreproachable behaviour in the points of which he has been accused, will, in most cases, neutralize, if not destroy, the ven-
om; but who will say that this ought to be the only remedy for such injuries? Much of what I have just said might be exemplified in my own person, of which more another time.

L. L. M.

and ennobling qualities of his nature—where many a buoyant, and ardent, and elastic spirit has been degraded, and plunged into the bottomless pit of corruption and depravity—where many a spotless spirit has imbibed the contagion of that moral disease, for which humanity has discovered no cure—where many a holy and immortal soul has suffered the agonies of that second death from which there can be no redemption till that awful consummation foretold by the apocalyptic prophet, when the sea and earth shall give up their dead—and Death and Hell shall deliver up the dead that are in them.”

The witnesses for the defendant were then examined, but the object of this abstract being that of shewing the general, but not the particular, merits of the case, I pass to the address to the jury, by Mr. Hooper, counsel for the defendant. After an apologetic exordium, he congratulated the jury and the public that ;

“This trial, if it settles nothing else, will go far to settle the admissibility of the truth in evidence, in cases of libel—**THE TRUTH**, gentlemen, which those only are afraid of, who, for the reason given of old, *choose darkness rather than light.*”

“The defendant is indicted for having published a *false, scandalous, malicious and defamatory libel*. A libel may be defined, in the words of a distinguished jurist,* “a censorious, or ridiculing, writing, picture, or sign, made, with a mischievous and malicious intent towards government, magistracy, or individuals.” Our defence is first, that the publication is *true*. The counsel for the government have consented, and the court have decided, that the defendant shall give the truth in evidence. *This is no new doctrine*, although it has not, hitherto, in this state, been practiced. It is as old as the rules of the common law, drawn from the highest and purest sources, and as they existed when our ancestors came to the country. Although the present decision of the court renders a very elaborate disquisition of the point, unnecessary, it is fit that, on a question of this importance, it should be known, that the defendant rests his rights, not on any thing peculiar to this cause, not on consent or favour, but on those settled principles, which can not be shaken or overthrown, and which, if they are any where to be firmly asserted and vindicated, should be so in this land. The ancient English statutes have been always considered as the highest evidence of the com-

*Hamilton.

mon law ; and the ancient English statutes and records make the *falsity* of the charges, a material ingredient in the libel."*

(*To be continued.*)

WE LEWIS LUKE MACCULLOH, by the grace of the public, and our own act, SCRIBBLER THE FIRST, Inspector-general, Censor, and Recorder, into, over, and of, all characters, manners, persons, and actions, in the province of Lower Canada, and the territories adjoining thereto ; Premier Essayist, Reviewer, and Satirist,

* The statute of Westminster 1st Edward I. cap. 34, enacts that none, thereafter, be so hardy as to publish any *false news* or tales. The same is found in the statutes of 2d Richard II. cap. 5, 12th Richard II. cap. 11, and 2d Philip & Mary, cap. 3, which enacts, that if any person be convicted of speaking maliciously *of his own imagination* any *false*, seditious, or scandalous, news of the king or queen, he shall be &c.. Numerous instances are found of prosecutions at common law, under these statutes, *Dyer*, 155. *Coke*, in his commentaries on the statutes of Westminster 1st, 2d *Institute* 226, describes the offence by the epithets *false* and *feigned*, and he further says, that no punishment was provided by this statute, but it was left to be punished by the common law. In his 3d *Institute*, 374, he gives the form of the record of conviction of *John de Northampton*, which record states that the libel was *false qua litera continet, nullam veritatem.* *Report of trial.*

Lawyers in arguing this, and most other questions of legal import, almost invariably confine themselves to *written law*, and *written precedent*. They might go, in this instance, far higher than the time of Edward I. and would find in the historical records and ancient customs of the Anglo-Saxons, as well as in what has been handed down to us of the laws of Edward the confessor, and king Alfred, proofs that the *truth* might be proclaimed as to every man's actions, whilst *false* reports were punishable, as well as cognizable, in the folk-motes, and other simple tribunals, of those periods. But they seek for a stream that is passing thro' the intricate and thorny wilderness of the law, when they might go to the fountain head ; and do not consider that *whatever is sound reason, and true justice, IS LAW, IS ENGLISH LAW, IS THE COMMON LAW OF ENGLAND*, unless there be some qualifying or contradictory statute in existence that takes another view of the subject.

L. L. M.

&c. &c. &c. To all our loving readers, and others, send greeting. WHEREAS, our Scriblerian and Censorial dominion, has, of late, been extended into the province of Upper Canada, and unto the shores of Lake Ontario, and is likely to be still farther increased in that direction; and whereas it is expedient for the good government, moral discipline, and literary improvement, of our said newly acquired dominion, that trust-worthy, diligent, and intelligent deputies should be appointed therein, for the collection, arrangement, and transmission, of all matters appertaining to our jurisdiction as aforesaid; and whereas, our trusty and well beloved subject and contributor, PAUL CRIMPS Esquire, hath offered his services for the support of our authority in the district of Cataroqua, Now KNOW YE, that, in consideration thereof, and of the benefit to be derived to the public and ourselves, from his constant and unremitting exertions, we have appointed provisionally, and *quamdiu se bene gesserit*, the said Paul Crimps Esquire, to be our deputy-Inspector-general, Censor, and Reporter, in and over all manner of persons and things, appertaining, and subject, to our jurisdiction as aforesaid, situated and being between the boundary line of Lower and Upper Canada, and the western line that divides the Midland, from Newcastle district, in the said province of Upper Canada; with authority to receive the submission of such persons, townships, or districts, beyond that line, as may be inclined to become incorporated with our dominion, and to appoint sub-deputy-inspectors in and over the same, subject to our approbation: upon condition, nevertheless, that he, the said Paul Crimps, Esquire, and all persons acting under his deputed authority, shall conform to the instructions which accompanied the commis-

sion granted to Deputy-Inspector-general Tickler for the district of Montreal, as recorded in No. 65 of the Scribbler, which instructions are to be taken, deemed, and considered, as forming part of this commission, and of all similar commissions that may in future issue from our court.

Given under our hand this twenty-ninth day of May, 1823.

LEWIS LUKE MACCULLOH.

Duly registered, recorded, and sealed,
in the office of the Scribbler.

A. L. *Secretary and Treasurer.*

Mem. In explanation of that part of the above mentioned instructions which excepts from the reports of deputy-inspector-generals, "such objects as are merely political," and "such as relate to religious controversy," it is requested to be observed, that reports on political subjects may be addressed to head-quarters, under a separate seal, for inspection at the FREE PRESS office; and that the exception with regard to religion, is meant only as to doctrinal points; the persons, morals, quarrels, and customs, of the various professors and sects, being left open for animadversion and reproof.

Turning now to some of my Quebec communications, which circumstances have prevented me from taking earlier notice of, I have to request my readers will transfer themselves back, in fancy, to the months of February, March, and April, and conjure back again the winter-robcs of snow, the sheets of ice, the long nights, with their appropriate enlivening accompaniments, carriages, bells, festivities, dancing, music, and feasting. And first I will comply with the re-

quest of a *subscriber*, who, in the name of many others, requests me to announce that ;

Messieurs HAYFIELD, MARROWBONES, & Co. sanguine of success, from the encouragement received this winter in their exertions to render the *Dandy-club* parties equal, if not superior, in attraction ; intend, next season, to open a regular dandy-shop, at the island of Orleans, where customers may be accommodated with conveyances, & served with refreshments, as well as *dandy-stays*, and all sorts of *millinery*.

To enumerate all the qualifications, and all the comforts and pleasures to be derived from the parties they are ambitious of superintending and providing, would be too tedious to mention ; but they beg to state, that at the last trip, a party of pleasure started from Quebec, under their conduct, for the island of Orleans, consisting of about thirty-five or forty people, in eighteen carriages, provided with rounds of beef, hams, turkeys, fowls, beefsteaks, veal cutlets, sausages, tongues, onions, potatoes, roast and boiled, pastry of all kinds, apples, nuts, almonds, raisins, and a super-royal plumcake, &c. with an adequate portion of wine, gin, rum, brandy, not forgetting small beer, tea, sugar, coffee &c. with three fiddlers.

Mr. Hayfield, from his experience in drawing corks, wiping spoons, and other accomplishments of a butler and bottle-washer, and his present dignity of knight of the pantry to His Sub-excellency, flatters himself he can not fail of giving full satisfaction ; especially when assisted by Mr. Marrowbones, whose emblem being a lily of France grafted on a shamrock of Ireland, he can not but be highly acceptable to the ladies.— Their united pretensions, as belonging to the suite of His Sub-excellency, and their long stand-

ing in Québec, (having both been imported last autumn,) give them an undoubted right to preside at, manage, conduct, and enliven, all parties who are pleased to favour them with their custom.

Next in point of date is the following :

Quebec, April 2d, 1823.

“One would be apt to suppose it was intended as a severe lesson to man, that some of the ape-species so nearly resemble him in shape and appearance, that, were they dressed in his habiliments, there would be little else to distinguish them than their silly tricks and want of rationality.”

Essay on the brute creation.

SIR,

I believe it may be considered as a maxim that in those smaller circles of society, where education and knowledge of the world have no extensive opportunity of informing and civilizing those who constitute them, it has always been found that the great and would-be great, trample upon, and treat with haughtiness and contempt, those whom they consider as the inferior class of the community. In new settled countries in particular, you generally find only two classes, or grades,* in society—the high and the low,—the rich and the poor—Command and obey (“the action suited to the word, and the word to the action,”) without any reason assigned, are almost the only two terms that are known in the regulation and conduct of the concerns of

*Though this is essentially a Yankee word, and not an English one, it is very different from the other reprehensible and barbarous novelties they make use of in writing and speaking; for it is a word which, in its construction is legitimately anglicized from a Latin one. I do not therefore condemn it, but recommend it to be admitted sparingly until it be more generally adopted at home, especially since we have several synonyms for every sense in which it can be used.

L. L. M.

such a community. But, when a colony has had time to form proper establishments for education, has increased in commerce, and intercourse with the rest of the world, general knowledge becomes diffused by the first, and the rough and disagreeable features of character are rubbed off by the attrition of the second; society begins to acquire those qualities that render it worthy of the approbation of the philosopher; "Knowledge is power," and the diffusion of riches and civilization by commerce, produces a greater degree of equality. A very considerable time must, however, elapse, before the primary colonial division of society into two classes, can be done away with; and a series of classification upon the same principle will still for a long while prevail, before society is properly amalgamated, so as to be pleasant, comfortable, and rational. Besides *the great by title and authority*, who may assume a justifiable consequence, the *purseproud ignorant*, will aspire to the same rank, and, according to his ignorance, so will be his consequence: the general merchant will rank above the retailer, and he far above the mechanic; and their clerks and respective journeymen, in the same gradation; altogether forming as many different castes, unapproachable by each other, as are to be found in Hindostan. Should anyone of an inferior rank be admitted to the public company of a superior, the superior loses caste, and must, in future, descend to the company that he has polluted himself with. Thus, the utmost care and attention must be used not to touch "the unclean thing," lest more than a Jewish purification should prove necessary, previous to the readmission of the culprit to the congregation.

A very laughable instance of this scrupulosity of intercourse, occurred here a few days ago. A

subscription-ball had been publicly advertised, by a celebrated Italian professor of dancing, and a very considerable number of tickets were sold. When the company met, a few clerks to the middling class of merchants in the Lower Town and their partners, on viewing the company as they came in, stepped on one side and held a consultation as to what was to be done. They could not, without injuring their dignity, and losing caste, mingle with a promiscuous set; neither durst they presume, (as it might have had dangerous consequences,) to propose that any of the company should leave the room. They, therefore, modestly suggested that a form should be placed, or a ribband stretched across the room—the *respectables* to dance on one side, and the *rejected* on the other! The proposal was refused with the contempt it merited—and a few of the poor things were allowed to dance, with their partners, at one end of the room by themselves, while the more truly respectable, and more numerous division of the company enjoyed themselves at the other, for a few hours.

That these non-descripts may be held up to the ridicule they deserve for their unfounded pretensions, unsociable habits, and want of knowledge of the world, I will attempt to designate some of them.

Two of them were brothers from the shire of *Ross*, who landed in Quebec a few years ago, when clerks were not at the rate of thirty, for one that was wanted. Scarcely had the grey homespun, or the brogues, been changed for frock and boots, on credit, nor had the waters of the St. Lawrence washed away the sulphurous smell of the native medicine, till fait, hersell started into shentlemen, an' fa was like her? an' could keep her leddies, and faught upon ta street, an' fel ta watch-

mans like cows—this last exploit they attempted lately in St. John-street, but paid severely for the fun.

A *Barnacle* or *Solan-goose*, also from the heathy glens; who had no property but a Scotch fiddle, on which he performed to admiration.

A young foal of the *Hamiltonian* breed, who had not lost his colt's tooth.

A gentleman famous for giving a *license easy* to fine looking landladies.

With some others whom I will spare for the present, in hopes they may profit by the lesson.

As to the ladies, who were their partners, they were far more respectable than such would-bes deserved; and as the ladies are dangerously seducing articles, I never meddle much with them; yet as the piece would be incomplete without them, they shall occupy a smaller place in the picture, than I hope they do in the hearts of their favourite dandies.

The first I shall mention were two gold *finches*, elegant in their figures, delightful in their notes, beautiful in their features, and anxious for pairing time.

A pair of young *sea-birds*, (such as seamen say forebode a storm,) who enchanted all eyes, ravished all hearts, and produced such confusion in the Scotchmen's ideas, that they forgot their favourite fiddle, and made two wrong steps in the Highland fling.

A German *Rein-deer*, whose taper and finely formed limbs, and playful attractions, her partner could not resist; for 't is currently reported that, when conducting her home, he swore he would make her mistress of his country-seat, and lady of his *hall*.

OBSERVER.

N. B. What is said respecting the Scotch

shentlemen, is not meant as a satire on poverty in the abstract, which can never be a proper subject of ridicule, but when connected with insufferable pride.

Quebec, 16th April.

MR. SCRIBBLER,

Having with difficulty obtained a ticket for Mr. G's second ball, which was announced as intended to be very select, I send you a few minutes from my logbook kept on the occasion.

At 8 P. M. got under sail. Arrived at the rendezvous, as I thought, in good time, but found the whole fleet in motion, and performing their manœuvres.

Observed the Sophia, Capt. Nimrod, with various signals flying, chased by several private ships of war: she was hailed by the Old Harry, and another cruiser, but struck her colours to the Billy, Capt. Timbertoe, who had her in tow most of the evening, part of which time she wore Captain T's jack flying at her maintop. During a cessation of evolutions, the Addle-egg, Capt. Butcherson joined company. The commander of the latter ship would probably not have attracted much notice had he not *run down* several better rigged and better-officered vessels than his own.

Mem. The Billy, Timbertoe, is not a bad built vessel, but has an awkward habit, in tacking, of running her poop against the quarters, and her bowsprit right between the shrouds, of her consort.

At 12 P. M. Capt. Timbertoe sheered off; his prize was afterwards boarded by some other cruisers; but he must have subsequently regained possession of her, as they were met in company the next day, in the latitude of the Cape.

Commodore Wisebar was a good deal annoy-

ed by some random shot from the *Gazelle*, Capt. Hack; this fast sailing, clincher-built, schooner having on a former voyage, kept company with the *Addle-egg*, again joined that brig on this occasion, which made the commodore bear up to windward, as he conceived the *Gazelle* ought to belong to his squadron.

The *Tyne*, Captain Ballen, and the *Lord Melville*, storeship, being topheavy, fell foul of each other, but were separated without much damage. The *Tyne*, having lost the cap of her mainmast, Capt. Ballen, took a station at the straits thro' which the whole fleet had to pass, and insisted upon examining each as they sailed out, to see whether any of their caps would fit him. This conduct would probably have been resented by several of the masters, were it not that they saw the distressed situation he was in.

At 5 A. M. the following morning, the whole fleet separated and steered different courses.

A QUARTERDECK LOUNGER.

As it is impossible to do justice to the subjoined document in a translation, I depart in this instance, from my general plan, and give it in its original dress.

JEANNOT, par la grace des Minuties, Roi, comme Pere, des *Fanfans*, Protecteur des Philosophes en *Bernardin de St. Pierre*, (1) &c. &c. &c. A nos amés et feaux, *Jean, Pierre, Francois*, aux *Anges du vin*, et à la *Force*, et à tous ceux à qui il appartiendra, SALUT. Notre amie la dame de *Force*, vulgairement connue sous le nom de *Moumans*, arrangeuse de rameaux à *Quebec*, nous a

(1) Le Roi Jeannot, est un savant qui fait le philosophe, et qui autrefois debita dans une assemblée publique un morceau de *Bernardin de St. Pierre*, comme venant de lui meme.

rait exposer qu' elle desiroit fleurir un grand nombre de rameaux(2) pour l'année prochaine, s'il nous plaisoit lui accorder nos lettres de privilege pour ce necessaire. A ces causes, voulant favorablement traiter l'exposante, et le recompenser de ses exploits militaires durant la derniere guerre, tant dans les armées que dans la marine, sous la commandement des *de Rottenbourgs*, et *Morrins*, nous lui avons permis, et permettons par ces presentes, fleurir les dits rameaux, autant de fois que bon lui semblera, de les vendre et debiter par tout notre royaume, et *marguillage*,(3) pendante la vie de la dite requirante. Faisons defenses à tous vendeurs de rameaux, et autres personnes de quelque qualité, philosophie, ou condition qu'elles soyent, d'en vendre ou faire vendre dans aucun lieu de notre obéissance, sous quelque pretexte que ce puisse estre, sans la permission expresse de la dite exposante ou ses ayans cause.—

A la charge que ces presentes seront enregistrées tout au long sur le registre déposé dans la maison du *Veau doré*(4) dans trois mois de la date d'icelles, que les rameaux seront fleuris dans notre royaume, et non ailleurs, avec *du beau clinquant, de la belle batiste jaune, bleue, rouge, du ruban de pareilles couleurs, et du beau papier frisé*, à peine de decheance du present privilege; qu'avant de les exposer en vente, le modele sera remis dans le meme estat, es mains de notre très cher et feal le chevalier *de la Force*, qu'il sera remis deux des dits ra-

(2) C'etoit la coutume autrefois de porter à l'eglise le *di-manche des rameaux* des rameaux fleuris, mais maintenant cette coutume louable n'est observée que par quelques gens de bien, qui en portent encore, ce qui fait rire le public, qui ne se connoit pas en rameaux. Parmi ces gens de bien on a vu la dame exposante se signaler avec eclat.

(3) Le Roi Jeannot, parmi ses dignités illustres est aussi marguilleur.

(4) C'est le palais où le Roi Jeannot va rester.

meaux dans notre *magazin en gros*,⁽⁵⁾ un dans celui *en detail*, et un dans le chateau de notre très cher et feal chevalier, le capitaine de milice, &c. &c. &c. le tout à peine de nullité des presentes. Du contenu desquelles nous mandons et enjoignons de faire jouir la dite exposante et ses ayans cause pleinement et paisiblement, sans souffrir qu' il lui soit fait aucun trouble ou empchement; voulons que copie des presentes soit signifiée aux sieurs *Dion* afin qu'ils n'en pretendent causes d' ignorance. Tel est notre plaisir. Donné à Quebec le 24e. jour de Mars, l'an de grace, 1823 et la 3me année de notre regne.

Par le Roi en his conseil.

(Signé) BERNARDIN DE ST. PIERRE.

Secrétaire.

The celebrated countess of Dorchester, mistress of king James II having seated herself at the theatre on the same bench with a lady of rigid virtue, the other immediately shrunk back, which the countess observing, said, with a smile, "Dont be afraid, madam, gallantry is not catching."

At a country town in France, a play called *the Death of Abel* being to be performed, it was announced that the actors would appear *in the costume of the times*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. Generally more punctuality is recommended in answering letters; the editor of the *Scribbler* begs to say that the disrespect shewn in not sending punctual replies, will be considered as a *vumen læsæ majestati Scribleri*, and punished accordingly by exposure: those to whom this applies will fit the cap on. S. P. Q. R., PETER CROOK, and others, received and referred to Mr. Gossip. TIM TWIST will not do for the *Scribbler*,

(5) Le Roi doit se mettre marchand engros ce qui fait croire qu'il est un grand homme

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