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# A <br> $\begin{array}{llllll}\mathbf{L} & \mathbf{E} & \mathbf{T} & \mathbf{T} & \mathbf{E} & \mathbf{R}\end{array}$ T 0 <br> Sir WILLIAM MEREDITH, Bart. <br> I N <br> $A \quad N \quad S \quad W \quad E \quad R$ <br> TO HIS LATE LETTER TO THE <br> EARL of CHATHAM. 

* How execrable then is the barbarous impiety of tbofe men, who have torn their country to pieces, by all forts of villainy, and who not only have been, but are, at tbis infant, confpiring its ruing, and deftruction!

Cicero.
LONDON:

Printed for G. Kearsly, at No. 46, in Fleet-Street. M.DCC.LXXIV.

## S I R,

YOU begin your letter by admitting with the reft of the world that his majefty's arms, direeted by the genius, and animated by the vigour of lord Chatham's councils, added Canada to the Britih empire. You then obferve, that it too often bappens that national wiidom Reeps rvbilft the spirit of conquef is asvake. The Macedonians, the Romans, in their latter days, the French in theirs, the Auftrians, the Ruffians and Pruflians all ftrengthen and confirm your obfervation, their conquefts only carrying flavery abroad, and eftablifhing it at home. But as your own pofition implies that national wifdom is not always aneep, while the fipit of conqueft is awake, you muft B
allow
allow me in opiofition, to looky upon the ara of lord Chatham's adminittration' as a glorious itJuftration of it ; the conquefted then made having a rendency to encreale and perpetuate the trade of this country, and in confequence encreafe and perpetuate its liberties; for as freh marts open to us, we mult have frefh hands to fupply them, till at laft we fhould fee manufacturing towns rifing out of the mon defert parts of our country; thus the nation increaling in trade would increafe in property, and people ; many of whom becoming freeholders and freemen, would increafe that grand creative foundation of the itate, which gives exiftence to all other orders, from the petty conftable to the king's majeity ; the increafe of frecholders and freemen, naturally caufing an increafe of reprefentatives, the foundation would be widened; the great pillars multiplied and ftrengthened by their numbers, the weight of the fuperflanulure would be as a feather; the fall of which, or fubftitution of another, would hardly be perceived: whereas its weight at prefent is hardly to be borne.
That thofe affertions are not chimerical, the hiftory of this country, from Henry the 7 th to the prefent moment, will evince. And as to any external injury, what power fhort of omnipotence could effect it? as Great Britain and Ireland united and afimilated by an equitable and fair union, under
the circumftances I have mentioned, could fupport feventeen millions of free-born fubjects, difdaining every controul but that of haws made by themfelves. If to this we add an union with our colonies, which, though it could not be formed as clofe as that with Ireland, yet it may be accomplifhed in fuch manner as to continue for fome generations, and then, leave fuch a remembrance of reciprocal affection and good offices, as could hardly be erafed, till in the great abyfs of time the remembrance and the remembrancers fhail Share the common and natural fate of being no more.

You infinuate that had lord Chatham reflected: on the neceffity of a civil eftablifhment, Canada, a country differing from ours in religion, laws, habits and cultoms, he would not have given it the preference to Martinique, Guardelcup, and the other rich iflands reftored to the French and Spaniards in the Weft-Indies. But had you teflected that the fame difficuly muft have occ..rre.. to his lordhip in the fettlement of thefe, as in the fettlement of Canada; their religion, their laws, and cultoms being equally difimilar to ours; you would not have expofed yourfelf by an obfervation for which a fchool-boy fhould have been hooted at. Jamaica was formerly a Spaniifh inland under the fame predicament with Canada; Jamaica B 2
is now an Englifh ifland, inhabited by Englifhmen, and governed by Englifh laws; with a free Englifh leginature.

I muft take the liberty to fet you right in another particular, which is, that we had not conquered the Havanna, or even been at war with Spain, when the French'minifter was treating with lord Chatham; confequently his lordhip could have had no choice with refpect to it. But this is one of the many of your little infinuations, in order to vilify the repucation of that great man. However, as thofe who know the human heart, confider the malevolent part of the creation as obrjects of pity, as well as deteftation, I who am apt to commiferate diftref, though the devil fhould be the fuffering object, would advife you, and the reft of the king's friends, no longer to look upon the earl of Chatham as an object of hatred; becaufe you cannot injure him ; for, who will believe that his wifdom and virtue are not perfect, who. raifed this country from the moft abject ftate of defpondency, to the higheft pinnacle of glory: who found her trampled upon by an infolent foe, and in her turn, made her trample upon that foe; who found her fleets and armies beaten and flying before the enemy, made thofe fleets and armies rout and deftroy that enemy; who found her iflands'torn from her very bofom, and that very bofom

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bofom feemingly devoted to deffruction;--her credit almoft annihilated; yet, fuch was the Godlike power of that man's virtue, that almoft inftantaneoufly out of this ruin of an once formidable empire, he raifed and created a fabric at once the dread and wonder of the world.

Whether lord Chatham did, or did not propofe to the crown a civil government for Canada, I who have not the honour of knowing, or being known by his lordhip, will' not take upon me to fay ; but this I can fafely prefume to affert, that it is not to be believed without manifett abfurdity, that the virtue which effected fuch mighty works could either from " inaccuracy of bead, inattention of mind, or incorreEInefs of judgment," have omitted an object of this magnitude; we muft, therefore, trace this feeming neglect to its proper and diabolical fource; the secret influence which liftens to no councils but fuch as are bloody, cruel, and fubverfive of the rights of this free country and its free colonies.

You wilfully impofe on the public when you fay, lord Cbatbam returned a fecond time to power. His lordfhip returned, indeed, into the minittry, but not into power; for, finding that nothing could be done for his country, every thing being governed and directed by a fecret and pernicious influence, he refigned; and, as a peer of the realm
realm, in his place, reprobated a bill which I will prove to be what his lordhip defcribed it, "atro"cious, fhallow, and inept;" that popery is eftablifhed, the proteftant churches devoted, and the veil of the remple rent afunder, that the king's minifters might as well begin to pull down all the proteftant fteeples, and that they have at length thrown off the mafque, and opened their plan of defpotifm.

You fay, this plan of defpotijm is the fubfitution of an aEt of parliament, in licu of a government by proclamation. You have here fuid the thing you did not mean ; your irony, like "Shake" fpeare's vaulting ambition, o'erleaping itfelf, "falls on t'other fide." But as I am not ignorant that any thing leís evident than indifputable facts will make a profelyte of a genius of your fpecies, I will take a claufe of the bill, which, in the upper houfe, was modefly attempted to te fupported, in immediate oppofition to the greateft ftatef. man and orator this world ever produced.

The fourth enacting claufe, after kindly and humanely leaving the poor Canadians in the pof. feffion of all the rights they had in a ftate of havery, fays, "that in all matters of controverfy, relative " to property and civil rights, refort fhall be had " to the law of Canada, as the rule to decide by ; " and that all caufes which fhall hereafter be inf:
" tuted
" tuted in any courts of juftice, to be appointed " by his majefty, his heirs, \&c. fhall, with refpect " to fuch property and rights, be determined " agreeably to the faid laws and cuftoms, until " they fhall he varied or altered by any ordinances " that flaill, from time to time, be paffed by the "governor, lieutenant-governor, or commander " in chief for the time being, by and with the ad" vice and confent of the leginative council to be " appointed in manner hereafter mentioned." Now if I can fhew this leginative council to be the mere creature and trumpet of the crown, nender as my abilities are, I think I fhall have made fome progrefs toward eftablithing the propriety of the firt epithet bettowed on this a@, by lord Chatham, " that it is atrocious."

- The act empowers his majefty, his heirs and fucceffors, by warrant under his or their fignet or fign manual, and with the advice of the privycouncil, to conftitute a council for the affairs of Quebec, to confift of fuch perfons, refident there, not exceeding twenty-three, or lefs than feventeen, " as his majefty, his heirs, and fucceffors, hall be " pleafed to appoint;" and upon the death, removal, or abfence of any of the members of the inid council, in like manner, to conftitute and appoinc fuch and fo many other perfon or perfons as fhall be neceffary to fupply the vacancy or vacancies;


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which council, fo appointed and nominated, of the major part thereof, fhall have power and authority to make ordinances for the perce, welfare, and good government of the faid province, with the confent of the governor, or, in his abfence, the lieutenant-governor, or commander in chief, for the time being.

Two things are here worthy of obfervation, which are, that the king is to erect this leginative council, with the advice of his privycouncil; but the nomination of the members (under a vague limitation of numbers and defrription of refidence) are left entirely to himfelf. As alfo, in cafe of death, remaval, or abfence, in like manner, ex mere motu, thall conftitute and appoint fuch and fo many other perfon or perfons in their room. But for fear nine creatures of the crowh, being the majority of feventeen members, fhould be too numerous for the moft powerful prince in the world to practice upon, the houre of commons, with a ready venality, willing to omit no opportunity of fmoothening the way to their adopted objects, Popery, (as far as it will ferve the purpofes of this pious reign,) Slavery and Arbitrary rule, inferted a claufe, which reduces the majority to five; for it fays, that no ordinance fhall be paffed, at any meeting of the council, "where " lefs than a majority of the whole council is pre-
"fent." Now if the whole council mould be feventeen, the majority will be nine; and as this majority of nine is declared fufficient to conftitute a council for making ordinances, a majority then of this majority will be competent to all legiflative purpoies; and as five will be a majority, confequently five may be the ordaining number. This is a legiflature with a vengeance; and yet, with all thofe badges of Slavery about it, it will appear free as the winds of heaven, when compared with its finifhed ftate; the devil himfelf not being able to devife more infernal claufes and provifions than are enacted, to render what is called a leginative council the executive engine of whatever diabolical fchemes the worft of princes may conceive.

What thofe claufes and provifions are, the religious part of the biil will inform lus. It commences like Nero's reign, moft liberally and fpecioully; afierting, "that for the more perfect fi"c curity and eate of the minds of the inhabitants " of the faid province, it is hereby declared, that " his majefts's fubjects, profeffing the religion of "the.church of Rome, may have, hold, and en" joy the free exercife of the religion of the church " of Rome, fubject to the King's Supremacy, " nuade in the firft of queen Elizabeth, over all " the dominions and countries which then did, or " thereafter hould belong to the Imperial crown

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"s of this realm; and that the clergy of the faid " church may hold, receive, and enjoy their ac"cuftomed dues and rights, with refpect to fuch "perfons only as thall profefs the faid religion."

Now I muft afk you, what is the religion that is eftablihed by this bill? for it is not the Proteftant; becaule all :'e ceremonies of the Romifh church are retained, with all her doctrines, except that which fpecifically conftitutes her fuch, the Pope's Suprenacy. It is not the Romifh; becaufe the king is declared its Supreme Head. It is not the Quakers, the mild precepts of their religion would ill fuit the bloody purpofes of this bill. It is not the Gentoo, the Mahometan, or the Bonzes. It is not the religion of Moles, or furely of the Merciful Jefus; for I have fearched all the law, and all the prophets; the four Evangelifts, the Acts of the Apoftles, \& c. \&zc. and na where find it. If then it is not the child either of the Old, or the New Teftament, it is not the child of God; And if not of God, there being but another power, that has any concern in this world, it muft be of bim; from whom nothing more like himfelf could proceed.

The Englifh proteftant bifoops, by difcharging as well the offices of midwives, nurfes and guardians, as in their fpiritual capacities, giving their Holy Benediction to this Imp; have afforded an illuftrious example
e faict eir aco fuch gion." that is roteftominh except h, the ecaufe hot the would is not
ample of gratitude to the progreffive Apoftolical Chain. But here I would advife thofe right and moft reverend fathers in God to ftop; becaufe, Should that once be conceived, which is fhrewdly fufpected, that the union between them, and this Little Gentleman's Father, is too clofe: a fearch may be made after their apoftolical title-deeds, which being not be found, their Heiy Lordhips may be left fur le pavée. However, in juftice to our right reverend fathers, I am apt to believe, that had they once thought of the duties which, in the prefence of the Almighty they vowed to perform; or the curfes denounced againft thofe who itray from the commandinents of God; they never, by their votes, or omitting to vote againft, would have given their fanction to this bill, it being abominable in the face of the Lord, and immediately under his heavy wrath. Firft, as it obliges the people to pay priefts to preach up idolatry and image worhhip, contrary to the third and fourth commandment; as alfo the denunciations in Deuteronony, which fay, "Curfed is the man " that maketh any carved or molten image, an "i abomination unto the Lord, the work of the " hands of the Craftfman, and puttech it in a " fecret place," 27.15 . Secondly, in effect, it unhinges and fubverts all right of private property; thereby falling under the 17.27. Deut. "Curfed
" is he that removeth his neighbour's iand-mark." Thirdly, it pays priefts to teach falfe doetrines, whereas the word of God fays, "Curfed is he that " perverteth the judgement of the ftranger, the " fatherlefs, and the widows. 19."

Now I will return to fhew thofe claufes and provifions, which are operative in rivetting a fyftem of navery fo bloody in its afpect, as none but the moft pious and beft of princes could have conceived. Old Suetonius fays of Nero, elatus inflatufque tantis velut fucceffibus, negavit quemquam principum fcife quid fibi licerts. But with what greater propriety this faying would come from the mouth of George III. the further inveftigation of this bill will evince.

That famous claufe which unites the triple, to the imperial crown of England, by fubjecting the Romifh church to the king's fupremacy, has a moft magical effect ; by inftantaneoully converting our proteftant king into a Canadian pope; and the Romifh religion into what - I have often heard it faid, that an act of parliament could do any thing; I had my doubts, but now they are no niore.

I have already mentioned that the fupremacy of the pope, now in, or near Rome, is fo effential a dogma in the Romifh church, that it is the very fine qua non of the whole religion; therefore if
you thruft even our pious George between his ho. linefs and the apoftles, you break through the chain of fucceffion, and tumble the whole fabric to the ground; from whence it neceffarily follows, that fo long, and no longer than the king of England pockets his fupremacy, the Canadians will enjoy their religion. ${ }^{*}$ But the inftant they grow retrogade by refufing their money to bribe our reprefentatives; or themfelves to cut poor Englifhmens throats on this, as well as the other fide of the Atlantic; fhould they not quietly fubmit to navery; out will pop his new holinefs with bulls, interdiets, excommunications, and anathemas, together with the whole park of fpiritual artillery. Bui what is Aill more dreadful from the kingly capacity, new prayers, \&cc. \&cc. \&rc. for the act of uniformity (the itt of Eliz. not being repealed by this bill) may be enforced all over that country; under penalty to the clergys firlt offence the lofs of one year's revenue and fix months imprifonment; fecond offence deprivation; to the laity one fhilling for each and every offence. Thus the fouls and bodies (the Habeas Corpus being withheld, and letters de cachet in force) of the wretch-ed Canadians being at the difpofal of the crown, what can it not do? the idea is of that monftrous maynitude as frights the imagination; then where fhall we find an epithet expreffive of its hideous
enormity? atrocious, though the molt applicable of pur language is inadequate from its comparative mildnefs; and to fearch foreign languages would be vain; words being but figns, mult be fubfequent to the things fignified; and, as neither the ante or poff delovian world, till the prefent moment, have produced fo mif-hhapen a devil, they conequently cannot afford a fign. Away then with your imperium legis, and no longer infult freeborn Englifhmen with fo foul an abortion.

You alk lord Chatham, whether it is neceffary for you to explain to his lordfhip which is a fate of liberty, and which of tyranny; and immediately follows an acknowledgement that he is converfant with the hiftory and fate of nations; and knows that all thofe unhappy prople, who have loft their liberties, have feen thofe liberties end precifely, where the government of will began. Now, as you knew the extent of his lordhip's knowledge, don't you think the queftion you put idle, if not ridiculous.
I will agree with you that Canada has been in a more miferable ftate fince, than before the conqueft; and alfo that defpotifm, that great mother of ath evils, was the caule of it: but who was the father of this defpotifin--the tops of the multiform proclamations will inform? however, if the proclamation of October, 1.763 , promifed to form
a government, as near as wigbt be, agreeable to the laws of England, who would not prefer it, fulfilled and perpetuated, to fuch an imperi'un legis as the poor Canadians have gotten? the firt would enfure perpetual freedom, the laft, as far forth as it can, perpetual navery. My lord Chatham's preference then was furely that which a lover of mankind muft ever fhew.

You fay, that the parliament of Henry the eighth gave the king's proclamations the power of laws; has your favourife parliament done lefs, or more ? the latter I will make appear. For that of Henry the eighth, by giving the proclamations the power of law, did by inplication declare that no fuch power exitted before. Whereas the parliament of George the third, by regularly reciting a proclamation, and annulling a part of it, becaufe, (as it fays) the provifions made by it were found upon experience to be inapplicable to the flate and circumitances of the faid province, \&c. Be it tberifore furtber enatied that the faid proclamation, So far as the Jame relates to the province of 2 2reber, the commiffors, \&c. \&c. be annulled and made void from and after the firft day of May, 1775. Now, with what greater refpect could it treat one of its own aets which it found neceflary in part to repeal, than by reciting it, approving fome part by repealing and annulling it in other parts, "becaufe
" upons experience," they were found inapplicable? not ftopping here, it goes on to enact provifions which would be applicable. What is this but grafting an act of parliament upon a royal proclamation? a monfter as hideous in civil, as the union of the triple and the imperial crowns are in, religious polity. Another claufe of your favoun..e: imperiuns legis continues even the provifions it. thinks inapplicable of the imperium bominis for one year longer; if all this is rot giving to, and declaring the power of law in the king's proclamati-: ons, I know not what words would affect it; and yet with all thofe glaring facts befure: you, you have found out "that the king's minifters bave lest "go ibe very power whicb lord Cbatbam Jaid they " grafped at;" then alluding to the infult offered. the king as he was going to pafs this bill, you fay, " the time was moft unfeafonable, wben bis majefy, " was going to give bis afent, E'c. to relinquib tbat "very power, which conqueft bad put into bis: " bands." This is fo very novel a doftrine, that I believe it is not to be traced beyond your curious pamphlet; pray where did you find that the conquefts and acquirements of England were not the property of England, but of England's creature? if you employ an agent to carry on a fuit, all the, materials for which you fupply him with, and he fhould be fucceffful, would you not think him a

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fool or a knave, who fhould endeavour to convince you, that the fruits of your agent's fuccefs was not your's, but his property ? did not Jamaica, Minorca, or Gibraltar, once occur to you? or did you dream that Canada was purchafed out of the Savings of the civil lift, which are exhautted in the purchafe of you, and the relt of the king's friends? or, that ir was bought out of the miferable reft of Hanoverian revenues?

In the 10th page, you feem to triumph in an appeal to lord Chatham's knowledge, and the knowledge of every man, whether a trial, by jury, is neceffary, wherever our merchants export their manufactories; and proceed to fay, in all our great foreign markets, there are no juries; in America there are juries; but if you will afk the merchant, whether he expects a fure payment from Hamburgh, \&cc. or from Bofton, 1 do not believe be will anfwer for the Boftonians. Your zeal againf juries, I fear, has hurried you into an appeal which will rather reflect upon your knowledge. Afk the Libbon merchants what injuftice, oppreffion, and rapine they daily experience from magiftrates, revenue officers, and trades. people? afk the traders to Spain what they have fuffered with refpect to the coin; in Chort, ank the whole body of merchants what they feel upon the apprehenfions of a war? all which would be, in a great meafure, preventD
ed if there were juries, as muft appear by looking at hone, where the perfon and properties of foreigners, under the guard of an Englifh jury, are fo facred, that they never fend confuls to our gieat trading towns; whereas we conftantly do to theirs, as a protection for our merchants and their properties: and even this appointment is not as effective as we could wifh; why was a judge confervator to be appointed by treaty to guard the perfons and properties of Englifhmen? with refpect to the queftion you fo infultingly put, relative to Bofton and Hamburgh, it is fo peurile, as hardly. to merit an anfwer ; however i: fhall not be paffed unnoticed.

The people of Bufton look upon themfelves as devoted to lavery, through the arbitrary, unconftitutional meafures which have been adopted by the king's minitters, and the legifature ; and this opinion they are not fingular in ; every colony upon the valt continent of America, as well as the greateft part of England, holding the fame; as alfo, that it is to be extended northward, and fouthward, from Hudions, to the Mexicon bay. If then the people of Bofton thould conceive, that by detaining the property of our merchants for a time, and caufe fpecified, it would fimulate thofe merchants to affift them in averting this navery; how hould this light upon or effect juries? if, in-•

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deed, they were in a quiet, fettled ftate, as Hamburgh is in, (but I believe will not long continue) and that the merchants of England could not recover their debts, your objection againf juries would then have fume weight; but even then, it would only lie againft thofe of Bofton; and no more determine againft their general utility, than a particular man, being a murderer, cetermines that mankind in general are murderers.
You fay, the praifes of juries are written in your heaft, and yet are moving heaven and earth to difcredit them. But this is the candour of our pious: courr. Your 11 th, 12 th, 13 th, and 14 th pages are taken up in relating what an Englifh jury is ; and fhewing, how impoffible it is to have one fo qualified in Canada, from the want of numbers. But this objection you feen to tear may be obviated, " tbere being above an bundred tboufand Canadians "qualifed to ferve; why not then' take your juries "from them?" 1 know of no reafon why you Should not; though I could affign many why you fhould. But you are of another way of thinking ; why? becaufe, as you fay, addreffing yourfelf to: lord Chatham, "your lord/bip reill bardly truff the "property of your countrymen to a jury of Canadians, "oonly." Without noticing the exceeding weaknefs and abfurdity of this mode of writing, for realoning it is not, I would afk you, how you

[^0]came to prefume, that lord Chatham would not entruft the property of his countryman to a jury, legally conftituted of Canadians, in preference to an arbitrary judge of a quadruple-headed monfter? is it becaufe his lordfhip pronounced the bill atrocious, fballow, and inept? or, becaufe he faid, it broke the national faith, by not granting the promifed fecurities of affemblies and juries ? or, for what other fuch rational caufe you formed that prefumption ? thus having, contrary to the fact, fuppofed my lord Chatham averfe to a jury of Ca nacians; you pars that wife mode by; and propofe two others too ridiculous for me to mention, in order to thew the impofibility of juries in Canada.
You fay, the "civil law of France, and tbe trial " by jury, in England, are fo diflonant, tbat the forms " of tbe one, can never be blended witb the proceedings " of the otber:" fure you cannot be ferious, or being fo, muft be ftrangely ignorant of the fubjeet you have written upon; elfe you could never thus confound two things fo diftinct as law, and the trial of law.

That the French rules of tenures, alienations, dowers, and inheritances are different from the Englifh, we will admit, though not in that extenfive fenfe you would have us imagine, but fupfofe they were as oppofite as day and night, if their

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their rule or law fhould be laid down before a jury of twelve men, why fhould they not be as competent to determine it as one man ; more particularly, when they are to be affifted with that man's knowledge. Has not your reading informed you of the mighty changes our laws have undergone, more particularly, under William the ift, Edward the ift, and Henry the 7 th ? and have not juries been competent under thofe various changes? was not the whole mafs of Englif ftatutes, by the soth of Henry the 7 th, trannated into Ireland, and Irifh juries found competent to try under them? and can any man in his fenfes fuppofe, that it was not, at leaft, as difficuit for an Irilh jury to try and determine, under Englifh liws, as for a Canadian jury, to try and determine, under their own laws of tenures; alienations, dowers; inheritances, \&cc. Wherefore, I would now ank you, whether they are not an additional fecurity to the fubject againgt the interpofition of the crown, as well as againt the corruption of the jardge? for, unlefs the crown, or governour and judges, in Canada, are more. immaculate than they have bren in this country, every man's reading and experience will diftate the abfolute neceffity of fuch fecurity.

In all trials, between Englifhmen and Canadians, let the jury be half of one, and half of the other; and in cafe they fhould not agree, but di-

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vidẹ equally, they may recur to a mode nearly: fimilar to what was once practifed in this country, with this exception, that I would have thofe: who are for the defendant put off, and fix Englifh and fix Canadians added till a verdict of twelve men was procured; but if the divifion fhould not be equal, let the majority determine $\mathrm{i}_{6}-\mathrm{I}$ putit in favour of the plaintiff, becaufe, in civil fuits, they are generally the pooreft, weakeft, and aggrieved party: But with refpect to fuits between Canadians, let. Canadian juries determine them $y$, and between Engliif, Englif juries; though, for the more fpeedy aftimilation of the two people, I fhould think it more eligibie, in the latter cates, to have the juries from the géneral return.

And as an immediate fubtitution of the Englifh and foreign language, in their courts of juftice, would caufé great confufion, delay, and tefs; without one beriefit to the conquering ftate, it would: be as unneceffary, as cruel to impofe it : though it: was twice done in this country; once by the Saxons, and again by the Normans. However, It think it material that they fhould adopt our language, as foon as poffible,' in order to render our union the ' ftricter, and firmer: :and for this end, would have: an ad paffed, allowing them ten years further ufage of the French tongue; and, at the expiration of that period, to ceafe in their courts of juftice,
and the Englifh fubftituted in its place. This would be allowing them all the time they could reafonably wifh for; and make the rifing generation look upon themfelves as Englifhmen. A policy in part fimilar, but not fo lenient as this, was looked upon as the wifeft ftep that wife prince Edward the If took, upon his conqueft of Wales; and by the fame means endeavoured to bring about an union with Scotland.---But, why do I mention this here? having dreamed that the policy of our pious court was to create difunion, and diftruft, not only between England, and her dependencies; but between family, and family, till every tre national, focial, a.3 human, being diffolved, we are individually left to be plundered, and butchered, by a pious, hypocritical tyrant of our own creation.

Page 18, you fay, "in tbe courfe of all tbe evi"dence that bas been laid before tbe public, wee find " tbat the Canadians bave exprefed one confant uni"form wi/b to be governed by tbeir orin laws, and "tbe Englifb, as fervently, defired to be governed " by tbe lawes of England." If you will look into the teftimony, delivered at the bar of the houfe, you will find that the Canadians wihed for our criminal laws, with the trial by jury in criminal. matters; and, as the minifter refufed the papers and reports, upon the ftate of Canada, which were called for by feveral members of the houfe,

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or to examine witneffes who might have fupplied the want of thofe papers; every experienced perfon mult fee, in this refufal, a concealment of evidence favourable to affemblies and juries in all cafes; and alfo in his refufing the examination of general Murray, who, from his long refidence at Quebec, and perfect knowledge of the ftate of Canada, could have given the houfe great information; elfe why was Dr . Marriot, before whom all the papers relative to the ftate of Canada were laid for his report and opinion, which were given to the crown? why, 1 fay, was not only this learned gentleman's report and opinion kept back, but he himfelf precluded from giving the houre. any information, when called to their bar? why was he fuffered to turn the folemn examination of the commons of England inte contempt and ridicule? would it not have been more decent to have negatived the motion for calling him to the bar, than fuffer him to be called merely to fhew the houfe that, as they were before infulted without, fo they fhould now be infulted within? do you think that the fabricated, and ridiculous teftimony againt juries, in civil matters, will have any other effect, than to thew the practice of the miniltry in the concealment of the truth? or that, that vain contemptible teftimony, given by one of the nobleff, which went to fhew, that his danc-

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ing corps would look upon themfelves as degraded to a level with honeft men, if juries were inftituted in civil cafes? or that other, as important objection, that the inhabitants of Quebec could not fee, how a juror (not knowing that there vere to be twelve) upon his oath was more likely to be an honeft man than a judge upon his oath ? do you think we can believe, that a whole body of people would adopt fuch objections as thofe; or, if they did, mould their levity, and ignorance, meet other treatment than is fhewed to children ? but what would you fay if the reverfe of this is the fact ? and that it is, the petition of the Canadians to the king will convince every perfon who can read: as in it they exprefs their gratitude for his majefty's kindnefs, in granting them the privilege of juries, in civil, as well as criminal matters; but, at the fame time, teftify their forrow at their being given to underftand, that it will exclude them from all offices civil, as well as military; wherefore, they humbly pray, that his majefty will be pleafed to permit them to participate with his ancient fubjects in the rights and privileges of Englifh citizens. This is the fubftance of that part of their petition which relates to jurie's and Englifh liberties. However, leaft you fhould think that I changed the words, and thereby alsered the fenfe, I will tranfcribe, verbatim, that
part which relates to juries, and the rights of Englifh citizens. It is addreffed

To the King's Moft Excellent Majefty.
The petition of your majefty's moft dutiful and loving fubjects, the lords of fiefs, landed proprietors, citizens, merchants, and traders, inhabitants of the diftrict of Quebec, in the province of Quebec, in North America.
" Your majefty hath been pleafed, during this " time, to grant them the privilege of fitting upon " juries, not only in all civil, but alfo in all cri" minal cafes; but at the fame time they were given " to underftand, that they were obftacles to being in " any employs, whether civil or military; they " were, and are, flarcled at the idea of fuch an " exclufion. Your petitioners, who ardently wilh "to ferve and to be ufeful to their country, flatter " themfelves, that your majefty will be pleafed to " permit them to participate with your ancient " fubjects, in the rigbts and privileges of Englijb "citizens. The irreproachable conduet which " they have obferved, fince the conqueft, and " their fubmiffion to government, fhould be look"ed upon as faithful teftimonies that they will ": never abufe your majefty's goodnefs. They " fhall

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" fhall ever, retain the moft refpectful remem: " brance of them; they will tranfmit them from " age to age, to their lateft pofteritys, they have " taken the moft folemn oaths of allegiance to "your majefty, and the illuftrious houfe of Hanover, and have, in obfervance of the fame, " fince the conqueft, ever behaved themelves as " faithful and loyal fubjects. Their zeal and at" tachment will make them ever expofe their lives "for the glory of their facred fovereign, for the " fafety, defence and augmentation of the Britifh " empire."

In another part they fay, " may your ma" jefty deign to extend your goodnefs equally " to all your fubjects, without diftinction, and to " maintain that glorious title of father and fo* " vereign of a free people, would it not be an in" fringement upon that title, if more than one " hundred thoufand new fubjects fhould find them" felves excluded from ferving your.majefty, and " deprived of thofe ineftimable bleffings poffeffed " by your ancient fubjects? if their petition be " heard, their fears will be diffipated; their mis" fortunes have an end; their days will pafs in " ferenity and eafe; they will be ever ready to " facrifice them for the glory of their fovereign', " and the fecurity of his empire, theipe new " country.".
$\left(3^{2}\right)$
$\therefore$ Is this the language of naves, defiring arbitrary laws, or that of fubjeets, claiming the rights and privileges of Englifh citizuns? can any thing be more pointed than their prayers for thofe great objects? if then thofe rights and privileges are a permanent fecturity in property, perfon and religion; with a parliament, or affembly of their own choofing, together with juries, in civil, as well as criminal cafes, and an eligibility to all offices; it is evident that the Canadians have defired all and every of thefe privileges.---Has this prayer of their petition been made the object of that bill which the king's friends would have us believe it is grounded upon? no; for it bas not left tbem a rigbt under Heaven. It has, indeed, granted them one privilege; the trial by jury; in criminal matters ; and fubltituted our criminal laws, in the place of the French; but tl. only during the king's pleafure, as muft appear by the following claufe, " fubjeet nevertbelefs to fucb " alteration and amendments, as the governor, liek"t tenant-governor, or commander in cbief, for the $\because$ time being, by and with tbe advice and canfent of st the legiflative council of the faid province, Jball, "f from time to time, caufe to be made tberein." This, in the language of the vulgar, "is like a cow's " giving a pail of milk, and then kicking it down " wich her heels."

In the Canadians petition, there is a particular part, which peculiarly claims our attention; as it will go far in manifeftirg the bounty and candour of our pious king.-It is, where the petitioners fay, that "with his majefty's grant of " juries they were given to underftand, that it " would render them incapable of all offices civil " and military." As our conftitution knows no fuch preclufion, was not this tantamount to laying, if you will petition againft this privilege, you thall not only be eligible to offices civil and military, but actually appcinted? However, the beft of princes was not pecitioned. The fcheme, indeed, againft other parts of our unfafhionable common law had better fuccefs; for the firtt judges were fent over fo totally ignorant of both law and gofpel, that, inftead of carrying a wholefome, conciliating rule for quieting the minds and poffeffions of people, they, in the language of the fcripture, carried a fword with which they cut down all the ancient fences and bounds, unhinged their tenures, and thus forced the miferable inhabitants to pray that their old laws, refpecting civil matters, fhould be reftored: but as you fee, by this petition, to be tried by a jury. From all which, it is evident, that the wifhes and prayers of the Cana_ dians were for a full enjoyment of the rights and privileges of free-born Englihmen. And as there

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was another petition prefented to his majefty, in the name of the Britih freeholders, merchants, traders, \&cc. (allured to Quebec by the King's word) claiming the performance of the royal promife, in the proclamation of October 1763, of calling an affembly to fecure their rights and properties; we fee all the people of all the religions unite, in fupplicating their fovereign for liberty. Was it granted? - it is faid, that Vitellius, under the moft fpecious and kind promifes, invited his fchool fellows to his court, all of whom he butchered, etiam unum Veneno manu fua porreEia in aque frigida potione, quampis affectus fobre popofcerat. Suetonius $1 X$.
The igth page you begin with obferving, that there can be no rule for the compofing of laws, "c but the fentiments and inclinations of thofe "who are to be governed by them." With re, fpect to independent ftates, you are right; becaufe their fentiments and inclinations form the general will or good. But with refpect to 2 dependent or conquered ftate, you are wrong; becaufe their fentiments and inclinations do not form the general will or good; but a partial one, which may be injurious to, if not fubverfive of, the fuperior or conquering ftate. What then is to be the rule ? quos ulira, citraque nequit conffifere reefum-tbe good of tbe wbole, conquered and conquering. Has this been

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been purfued? no; becaufe the Quebec bill has founded the Canadian ftate on a principle, not only difimilar to, but fubverfive of, that grand generous bafis, the Jalus populi, which has thrown up all the different orders of our ftate oxly to extend, protet, and perpetuate itfelf. Wherefore, all their operations are to have a tendency to thofe great objects, even thofe of the royal prerogative's and, accordingly, we fee att power reverts to the people on every general election, in order to fubmix to that grand tribunal, as well what has been done, as the propriety of a new creation. Whereas the Quebec bill founds the ftate of Canada upon the king's will ; becaufe that will creates the leginative body, and may annihilate is, and create ad infunitum.

With refpect to this meafure, and with reverence I akk; can amnipotence do more? is not this the very power by which the people of this country have made, and unmade kings, parliaments, offices, civil and military, down to the petty conftable and lance corporal? is it not from this power that Druidifm has been changed for popery; popery, for Harry the eighth's religion ; and Harry theeighth's for proteitantifm; and proteftantifm for papery; and this, the its turn, for the religion of the church of England? in fhort, what is it, that it cannot, or will not do? if then this legidative creating power bas had fuch ftrange, and wonderful effects

## ( $3^{6}$ )

in this country; and as great, and many in every other civilized ftate; why are we to fuppofe it will neep in Canada? here the merits of the right reverend fathers in God, the Englifh lords bifops, frould not be forgotten; who, in all thofe various, fome idolatrous changes have been foremoft in bowing the knee to Baal.
. In the fame page, you fay, that "that portion " of liberty which each man is willing to give up " for the convenience, fafety, and proteetion of " individuals, of families, of focieties, and of " ftates, is the firft principle of law."...So far from it, that it is neither a principle of law, or of common fenfe; wherefore I fear you have travelled out of your road, and are fo bewildered, that it will be but kind to fet you right; for which end we muft reverfe your propofition, and fay, that the convenience, fafety, and protection of individuals, of families, of focieties, and of ftates, for which each man has given a portion of liberty, are the firft principles of law. This is common fenfe, and what is more; it is the fact; though a pious tyrant, a perjured, idolatrous bench of bifhops, a defpicable houfe of lords, and a proftituted houre of commons, thould, with fiwords at our throats, tell us otherwife. $\dagger$

[^1]
## $37)$

As to Grotius, Solon, and Mores, they are all traitors to your caules you were therefore imprudent in not confidering their principles, before you had ranged them on your fide.
"The Canadians preferring a worfe law to a "better," you fay," fhould be decifive upon the "conduct of Great Britain." Here again your political genius feems to fail you; for that worfe choice may be the ruin of Great Britain; and fure you cannot conceive that poor old England is obliged to fign her own desth warrant, to humour the caprice of a wanton, the purchafed with great expence of blood and treafure.

The author of the letter to lord Chatham, fpeaking of the Canadians, fays, "they yielded them" felves to our protection and our faith, how then "can we deprive them of the firlt rights of human " nature?" George the third and his minifters will relolve him this,.- as to the affertion I have many things to fay: the firt of which is, that it is very pretcy; but like many other pretty things which you and I have feen in the neighbourhood of Drury-Lane, very unfound; fecondly, that the Canadians did not yield to our protection and our faith, for they difclaimed both, and yielded to our cannon and the bravery of our troops. When I tell you I have been bred a foldier, you will excufe this laft intrufion.

## ( $3^{3}$ )

You feem furprized at lord Chatham's faying, that no true proteftant could fupport this bill; and in anfwer you fay, "no true protettant, my lord, "can be no perfecutor, no true proteftant can " harbour any fuch idea as that of eftablifhirg re" ligion by force : is the Spaniard in Mexico to be " an example for a proteltant legifator ?" My lord Chatham, I dare prefume, and every true proteftant would anfwer no; charity being the foundation of their holy religion. And where would be the charity, in the firtt inftance, in giving fupport to a bill which deprived the miferable inhabitants of a right, founded on a compact between them, and che people of England, to the free enjoyment of their religion; and placed this right in the breat of the crown, whereby the very fouls of the people are enchained? For hould a king govern thefe realms, who with the collected hypocrify of all the frribes, .nd all the pharifeet, enveloping the heart of a Nero, hhould, I fay, the pord in his wrath think fuch a foiemn monter a fit ruler; what bloody purpofes may he not turn thofe Canadians to, fhould they unhappily conceive the retention of their workhip the firt object. And that they do, no man can doubt; who knows it to be an eftablifhed dogma of their church, that there is no falvation out of her pale. Confequently the queftion will be with a Canadian, fhall I be damned
by forfaking and giving up the religion of my forefathers, which enfures me eternal happinefs? or Thall I preferve it by obeying the will of my lawful fovereign; whofe motivcs; I, who am at fuch a diftance, and not of his council, cannot divine, but fhould prefume to be good: elfe the legifative body of a free people, would never by their molt follemn act, ( fandififed by the acquiefcence of its confituents) have made that will the governing principle of this country? I then in my turn afk you, what true pro:eftant, or even what true papit, or what any body, fave thofe who did it, could fupport fuch a bill? wherefore I may be, allowed to fuppore what I know to be impofible, which is, that the king thould inftantly arm the Canadians, march them down to affif in enflaving, or cutting the throats of our proteftant brethren along the coalt of America; that done, bring them over here for the fame righteous purpole; fhould we have any juft caule of complaint? no, we impoled the neceffity, the Canadians might therefore fay, we are exitemely forry that we are driven to the fatal alternative, either of changing that religion we prize above our lives, or executing the orders of our favereign: we cannot do the firft, without incurring eternal damnation; we cannot do the laft, without either rendering you fellow flaves, or cutting your throats; for all which you mult blame F 2 your-
yourílves: having permitted your leginature to break through the folemn national compact made between you, and us, at the time of our furrender: by which we were to be fecured in the free enjoyment of our religion, which compact you fhould either have obferved, or put us in the ftate we were in prior to the capitulation. If then you did not do the latter, juftice required you fhould the former; which would effectually have fecured us againt the old popery laws, 8 cc . as your latter act with refpect to us in Canada would hive been tantamount to their formal repeal : whereas now, we are laid open to the 25 th of Harry the eighth, the wort part of the ift of Elizabeth, and the act of uniformity, rrimo Elizabet! ; and in confequence of the former, the ftatutes of provifions and premunire: of the 25 th of Edward the third, and the 16 th of Richard the fecond.

I have mentioned thofe flatutes to fhew how impoffible it will be for the Canadians to retain their religion, unlefs they fhould be the mereppafive involuntary engines of the crown, moved by the abfolute will! of the fovereign. And if any are fa ignorant as to funpofe that they will facrifice their religion at the fhrine of humanity, let them look into the maffacre of Paris, the Irifh maffacte, $\dagger$ the fire

[^2]fire of ${ }^{\text {r }}$.ondon, the gun-powder plot, the burnings at Smithfield, the execution at Thorn, the inquifition, the impolitic as well as inhuman repeal of the edict of Nantz, the Ravaliacs, \&cc. \&c. \&c. frightful monuments of human bigotry, which nothing but neceffity could make me mention: being convinced that the good fenfe, moderation, and humanity of the prefent Roman Catholics of Europe are abhorrent to fuch bloody facrifices. But this cannot be faid for their biethre: on the other fide of the Atlancic, their religion not being yet arrived at its vigour, whereas here it is 'in its wain; there they are'preduded from all liberal information, here they are enlightened with it; there they conftrue according to the letter which our Saviour fays killeth, here they take the fpirit; in Short, they have no rule whereby to feparate the bloody tenets impoled by councils and popes, from the mild precepts of the merciful Jefus. If then the Roman Catholics of Canada are as zealoully orthodox as thofe of the 15 th and 16 th centuries, and that many of the above black deeds were done
land, by the letter of Charles the 2 d , in favour of the Marquis of Antrim- by the ftoppage of the fuccours that the parliament fint to reduce Ireland, fix months under the walls of Chefler,-by his entering into a treaty with the rebels, after he had engaged his faith to the parliament to the contrary, and bringing over many thoufands of them to fight againt the people.
pro falut anime of the fuffering parties; what are we not to fuppofe they will do for the falvation of their own fouls? and if to all this you will add the king's unlimited power in Canada, as already demonftrated from the Quebec bill, and then fuppore the royal will, will nos be executed, at leaft, whilf they think themielves unable to refift it, vould be folly in the exitreme.
In the latt part of the 23 d , and firt of the 24 in page, Speaking of the ftipulation made by the Canadians for the free exercife of their religon, you obferve, "that lord Chatham, when it was " made, never found fault with Sir Jeffery Am" hert, for agreeing to this part of it, or in his " lowhip's difplay of eloquence once blamed " that part of the definitive treaty, but now is " pleafed to call the meafure" (that is the capitulation) "atrocious, fhallow, and inept. Becaufe " it has fecured to the clergy their property," (which was refuled by genera! A mherft) "and be"caufe it has fubftituted an oath if allegiance," (never mentioned in the capitulation) "inftead of " that of rupremacy," (which the Canadians knew nothing of,) " required by the ift of Elizabeth," (of which they were equaily ignorant.), This paragraph is fuch a curious envelopement of ignorance, ablurdity, and mifreprefentation, that had I not obferved upon particular parts as 1 tranferibed

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it, it would have been vain to have looked for a clue; and therefore mult have condemned it in the lump, as inexplicable nonfenfe; which indeed would have made us feel for your head, but not for your aeart; whereas now we muft include both: feeing this mifchievous blundering arofe from a malevolent zeal of affixing the ideas of inconfiftency and cruelty upon the moft immaculate character this nation ever produced.

Your vain confidence of identifying two things as oppofite as day and night, viz. the religious parts of the ppitulation, and Quebec bill, has been the fecondary caufe of your expofure; wherefore, to prevent your falling into a fimilar error, I will fet before you the article relative to the Canadian clergy and religion.

By general Amherft's agreeing to the firft part of the 27 th article of capitulation, the Canadians Thould have had a ftronger fecurity for the free toleration of their religion, becaufe founded on mutual compaet, thar de diffenters have in England, whofe fecurity is a mple act of parliament. Becaufe the former being the joint act of the people of Canada, and the people of Englard, muft in equity bind, till diffolved by mutual agreement; whereas the latter being the act of the leginature, the propriety, equity, and expediency of its continuance or difentinuance is in its own breaft.

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Herein then we fee the wifdom and juftice of that conduct of lord Chatham, which has been fo illi-, berally arraigned, as though he would either perfecute the Canadians, or fuffer them to exercife their religion under a difpenfing power of the crown, page 29, 30 ; whereas he was for leaving their right upon a foundation, which nothing under heaven but injultice could have fhaken.
The Canadians, by the lecond part of the 27 th article, demand "that the people fhall be obliged " by the Englifh government to pay to - ?riefts " the tythes and all the taxes they were ufed " to pay under the government of the moft Chri" ftian King." To which general Amherft anfwered, "this mult depend upon the king's plea" fure," with which the Canadians were fatisfied, though they muft have looked úpon this as a mild refufal. The definitive treaty does not make the leaft mention of this part of the article, or clergy, which confequently corroborates the idea of the general's anfwer being a refufal ; and further, that there was to be no legal eftablifhment for a Romilh clergy; but that the people were to be left as our diffenters are, to fupport them agreeably to their own ideas of generofity and propriety; which was the mode practifed in the firt and pureft age of the church, and which, I hope, the good fentie of this nation will yery foon fee the neceffity of
recurring to s and thereby eradicate that damna le ambition in Ecclefiattics, which has fo long been the curfe of this country; as well by bringing a foul fcandal upon our Holy Religion, as by fapping the oonftitution : our right reverend fathers and the reft of the dignified clergy, voting, and preaching indifcriminately, for every meafure, whether diftated by the cruel lust of a Henry the 8th, the Bloody Bigotry of a Popiin Queen Marys or by the cleareft principles of jufice, and nobleft fentiments of bumanity of George the IIId.

Now we will fee what care has been taken of the proteftant religion, which you fay, page 25, is fo far from being rooted out of Canada, by this bill, as has been afferted, " that the reverfe is the " truith; for no man, who is, or who may be"come a proteftant, is to pay tythes, or any " church dues, to the Romifh eftablifhment; but " the money is ftill to be collected; in order to "conftitute a fund for the raifing and fupporting " 2 proteftant church in Canada." By whom collected? The Romih priefts of every parih to pay in the furplus to the treafury, under the denomination of Maffes, not faid by his majefty's proreftant fubjects in Canada. Item, commutations for murders, adulteries, rapes, thefts, fimple fornication, \&c. \&c. Item, indulgences, pardons; \&c. Item, proceffions, tapers, incenfe, wafers

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to turn into the Bon Dieu, lambs to reprefent the Immaculate Saviour, jewels, laces, hoops and cloths, in the neweft fafhion, for the Bleffed Virgin; to which muft be added, the neceffary expences of her Ladyfhip's frifeur, under which article will fall powder, pomatum, paint and patches, all of which rigbleous and pious articles are to furnilh a fund for the raifing and fupporting a proteftant church in Canada.

Our Saviour faid, alluding to himfelf, "upon "this rock," that is upon this mafs of virtue and piety, will I build my church, and the gates of Hell hall not prevail again!t it. But we, as if not fearful of the gates of Heil, but thofe of Heaven, build our church not upon a rock of virtue and piety, but upon idolatry, murders, adulteries, fornication, thefte, impudent mockeries of the fupreme being, and his immaculate fon; thereby fetting Heaven at defiance, by laying our four tation in Hell. But how weak and wicked all human endeavours are, when oppofed to the will of the osmipotent, the founders and fupporters of this, bill. like thofe of Babel will evince; the labours of the latter being multiplied, and their work retrograde ; their language confounded, and themfelves fcattered abroad upon the face of all the earth. They had for their monarch the mighty bunter Nimrod; whether then our modern Nimrod

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had more fuccefs in Weftminfter, than his brother in the plains of Shinar, the bill will inform us. "It enaets that the Rominh clergy of the church " of Canada, may hold, receive, and enjoy their " accuftomed dues and rights, with refpect to fuch "perfons only as Mall profefs the faid religion."
" Provided neve-"heiefs that it thall be lawful " for his majefty, his heirs, or fucceffors, to make " fuch provifion out of the reft of the faid accur" tomed dues and rights for the encouragement of " the proteftant religion, and the maintenance and " fupport of a proteftant clergy within the faid " province, as he or they fhall from time to time " think neceffary and expedient."

The act by eftablifhing that the Romifh clergy may hold, receive, and enjoy their accuftomed dues and rights, with refpect to fucch perfons only as Thall profefs their religion, does in faet declare, that there no longer exifts any dues and rights of the Romifh clergy's, fave thofe of their own religion. If not then of the Romifh clergy, there exifts none at ali, confequensly, ex nibilo nil fit, there can be no reft.

But the idea of reft, or fuperfluous dues and rights is exceedingly abfurd, and of this bill's creation, becaufe it fuppofes that the Romih clergy had, fubfequent to the capitulation, and prior to this act, a legal title to thofe dues and rights:

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whereas the reverfe of $t:$ is mun appear from general Amherft's anfue. inat article of the capitulation which de: ..ads': eftablifment for the Romilh cle.gy.---His anfwer was..." sbat it muff de"pend upon tbe king's pleafure.". And as they acquiefced and were fatisfied with this anfwer, it of courfe took away the former right, and the people were left to their awn free choice, whether they would, or would not pay their priefts; becaufe the king's pleafure, whether for or againtt the eftablifhment, was in no manner to impede, or effeet the grand objeds- the furrender or capitulation of Canada; which confequently having no dependance upan the event of the king's will, were full and complear without its manifeftation.

Hence mult appear how weak and groundiess (if not foul) was the joint report of the advocate, attorney and folicitor-general, to the privy. council, in January ${ }^{2} 768$, viz. "that the king "could not exempt the proteftant inhabitanis from "paying tithes to the perfons legally" an abufed term here, "entitled to demand them fram the " Roman Catholics in Canada."

And hence alfo muft appear, that the provifions in this bill for the Romißh priefts are null, and can have no legal effeet ; and that the Canadians are ftill left to their own difcretion and choice, whether they will pay tithes, \&c. or not.

Becaufe

Becture this part of the bill is founded on a fuppofition, that the priefts had an immediate prios right to all taxes under the denomination of accuffomed dues and rigbts; whereas if (as I think I have demonitrated) that this legal right did not exint, then the bill did not grant any thing Wherefore the people, whether proteftants or Romanits, may fay to the reverend tax-gatherers, ". . will not pay you any thing in compliance with this act, becaufe what we paid you fince the capitulation were neither dues or rights, but a benevolence, or free gift; as you had no law whereby to compel payment; and confequently no right; all rigbt being derived from law."

You fay, "the beft diftinetion you know between " eftablifhment and toleration is, that the greater " number has a right to the one, and the lefs to "the other." This is a falutary doctrine, and I fuppofe thrown out to prepare us for'a fimilar bill, in order to quitt the minds of his majefty's proteftant fubjects of Ireland.

You charge lord Chatham with having afferted " that the bill was intended to raife a ftrength in "Canada, in order to intimidate other parts of " America: and then that the bill was injurious "c to the Canadians." The firt pait of this charge you leave as you found it, thereby fhewing fome modefty; as I fuppore you knew that the bloody
orders which were difpatched for immediately arming the Popifh Canadians, and for marching them down againft our proteftant brethren in America, could not be long concealed. With refpect to the laft, "that the bill vas injurious to the Canadians," 1 prefume it to be as clearly demonftrated as any propofition in Euclid.

You fay, that in France there is "a fluctuation " in the adminiftration of juftice, that property is "c unfixed, parliaments banihed, and letters de "cachet iffued," and yet "the law is free," why? becaufe "Tacitus afferts it to have been fo," feventeen hundred years ago, and becaufe "Philip she "Fair demolifhed it in the 1 ath century," fee page 30, 31. - You are a moft fingular logician, and as good an hiftorian, the defpotifm of France not having taken place till the beginning of the 15 th century; the firt and moft fatal blow being given by Lewis the XIth, (fee Philip de Comines) wha alfo relates, that in order to remedy the grievances, and mifchiefs under which the kingdom laboured, the annual general council, or three eftates affembled, chofe thirty-fix out of their body with.regal authority, and that Lewis gave his rayal word that whatfoever thofe thirty-fix men fhould appoint to. be done, he would ratify and confirm.-How did he obferve this promife? as the citizens and nine' tenths of the kingdom tell you tbeir king obferves.
bis coronation ootb, bis proilamations, Ec.Ec. the confequence of the firt was a bloody civil war, which lafted thirteen years: the confequence of the laft muft be cither a total change of meatures, a revolution, or both.
Now hit, as Prench laws have been held up with migtity prafies by ali the king's friends, particularly by a geniteman, Who has appeared in the public prints, under the fignature of Palinurus, and who, 1 am informed, is of a degree not inferior to the attorney-general, I fhall for their fatisfaction, and the edification of this laft learned gentleman, mention the fentiments lof a Frenchman, William Budæus, who on account of his great knowledge, was called the very learned Budeus, with which quotation, I hall for the prefent take my ieave. He begins with Juvenal, quondam boc indigene vivebant more!-" fo may I exclaim, that in old times, " when this kingdom flourifhed," (as may appear by our money coined of pure guld, "there was "' a plain and eafy way of doing juftices; there "were few law-fuits, and thofe not of long con" tinuance, or indeed eterrial, as now they are; " for then this rabble rout of pretenided inter" preters of the law had not invaded the pub" lic: : ineither was the fcience of the law fretched " out to fuch an unlimited extent; but truth and "equity," and a prudent judge, endued with in-

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a. tegrity and innocences thas of more worth thao "fix hundred volumes of hiw books: but mow to "what a fid condtion chinge are brought, every "one feen, but nobitis dares preak out."

Nomo of tam Aulius qui mon inelliget, Sidmmint mus boc rempore, non modo crudelem fo superbam Dominationem nobis fed $G$ igromminifam USAgitifram eff fromant,
FINIS

## ERRATA:

Page 9, laft line, fut orby a fecret.pernicious ininfluence," tend "By the pernicious advice of ath ganl of Bute.
Pege 1 , line 7 , for ss in the purchafe of you," : Jead " in the procining of you.". "t prejudiced."
Page 34, line 13, for "quamvis", read "quam is!"



[^0]:    D 2
    came

[^1]:    $\dagger$ When I fpeak of the Houfe of Lords, or Commons, I would be underflood to mean the court majrity, or flaves.

[^2]:    + Abetted by that pious and Holy Martyr, Charles the ift, as appears by his commifion, under the Great Seal of Scotland,

