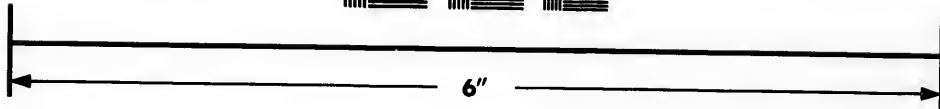
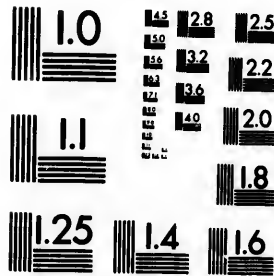


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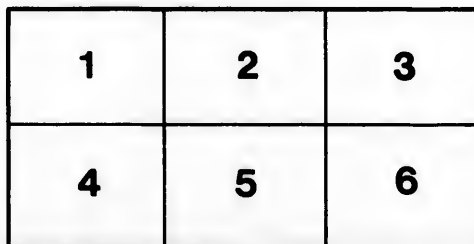
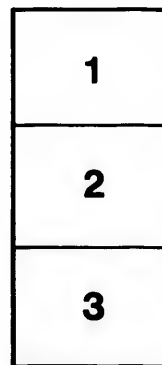
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REVIEW

OF THE

'REVIEW OF THE PAMPHLET OF M. CARON.'

[TRANSLATED FROM THE "CANADIEN."]

In publishing, in full, his too celebrated correspondence, Mr. Caron's object was, to make known the whole truth, in the hope that justice would eventually be rendered to whom it was due; the publication, therefore, took place, and was accompanied by a few remarks, deemed necessary on the one side, to excuse Mr. Caron from various accusations brought against him; and on the other, to signify an abatement of confidence, of which he had been the victim. These remarks, indispensible under the circumstances, might have been more terse than they were; in Mr. Caron's position it is surprising they were not more so; but the object was to justify, not to accuse.

This end once attained, we know that it would have been for him a great satisfaction to see this pamphlet fall forgotten, and not to have continued the scandal of a discussion, but little interesting to him, and but little honorable to those who made him the subject of it. Under this impression Mr. Caron had resolved to abstain himself, and prevail on his friends to abstain from all discussion in his favor which was not absolutely indispensable to the ends of justice. This resolution would have been scrupulously observed, if the friends of Mr. Lafontaine had not in the journals in the interest of that gentleman, unjustly making Mr. Caron with immoderate confidence, assailed false and injurious imputations against his character, and at the same time to Mr. Lafontaine's advantage; and intending to damage Mr. Caron, placing on incorrect and malicious interpretation upon some passages of the correspondence. This conduct, which Mr. Lafontaine could not ought to have prevented, has rendered necessary the following observations, written, as on the last occasion, in a defensive, not an accusing, spirit.

With this introduction, we will proceed to pass in review the "Review of the Pamphlet" of Mr. Caron, written, not in English, but in French, and translated and first published in English. This "Review," generally attributed to M. Lafontaine, is published without the name of its author—a circumstance aimed at as singular as the publication of the pamphlet reviewed in the same manner.

The defender of Mr. Lafontaine in this review makes the discovery that Mr. Caron is more than *quadrant* in directing his attacks against Mr. Lafontaine, instead of publishing them against Mr. Draper. The result accomplished by the pamphlet, however, would lead to the belief that Mr. Caron would have committed a still greater mistake if he had followed the charitable advice Mr. Lafontaine has counselled to be given him on this subject.

Upon this head, it may be observed that Mr. Caron seems in no respect swayed by the consideration of the relative position of Mr. Caron, *Speaker of the Council*, and Mr. Draper, *Leader of the Administration*; he was moved by the consideration of what was due to himself only, and adopted that course which appeared to him the most just. If the friends of Mr. Caron have entertained any other opinion, they have expressed their own and not Mr. Caron's opinion.

The author of the "Review" is most amiable in expressing the hope that *Mr. Caron's* *longer* *days* *shall* *be* *his* *own*. Upon this subject Mr. Caron may observe that he is sensible of no moderate love of his place; nevertheless he will resign it only on sufficient grounds, least it may occur to him, as it has occurred to some others, to repent afterwards of having done so.

The author of the "Review" is entitled to the further thanks of Mr. Caron for the interest he takes in the honor of the latter, and his solicitude upon this point, unlike him, on the part of Mr. Caron, to a degree of confidence which will no doubt be appreciated when he is informed that on the day following that on which Mr. Draper in the Assembly denied having said to Mr. Caron what Mr. Caron wrote to Mr. Lafontaine, Mr. Draper sent a mutual friend to Mr. Caron to give him, upon this head, an explanation, which would have been satisfactory, if it had been as public as the injury itself. Mr. Caron would

not have omitted to give to this reputation the publicity due to it, if his character, at that moment, had been implicated only in that single matter; but as, thanks to M. Lafontaine, he found himself more deeply implicated, he deemed it preferable to excuse himself from all charges against him at once; and to that end it was necessary to make the truth known—this was done, and justice has been rendered to Mr. Caron on the score of his motives and his honor. Now, therefore, that the author of the "Review" knows that reputation as public as the result has been made, we hope his impatience respecting the honor of Mr. Caron will be calmed.

The author of the "Review" is himself more than *adroit* (*plus qu'adroit*) when he pretends that Mr. Caron divides his honors equally between Messrs. Morin and Lafontaine; this allegation is more reasonable for its utility to Mr. Lafontaine than for its foundation in fact. The conduct of Mr. Lafontaine upon this occasion has been such that he had need of a screen behind which to hide himself; left alone, he would have cut too pitiable a figure in order to propitiate a little, the author of "I in Review" very cleverly has attempted to associate him in firm compact with Mr. Morin. It is with this end in view that he insinuates that Mr. Caron confounds them, and applies the same treatment to both; this assertion is incorrect, as the observations at the head of the pamphlet prove it to be, wherein we did not find one word which can be applied, or which can be made to apply to Mr. Morin (except the complaint of not having been defended.) Had Mr. Caron treated the matter differently, he would have committed an act of injustice, since the conduct of Mr. Caron throughout the whole affair has been, as it always is, frank, honest, and honorable. Mr. Caron ought also to add that, in this unfortunate affair, he can bring forward, in addition to the praise of Mr. Morin, some traits which do him honour and bear witness to his excellence of heart; whilst the same traits, if divulged, would give the world a directly opposite opinion of Mr. Lafontaine.

Mr. Caron, above all men, has resorted to profit from the political and dishonest swiftings of Mr. Lafontaine; nevertheless, he has never turned his back upon him; but for *fortiori* he has endeavored, by every means in his power, to replace both him and his friends in a position in which Mr. Caron thought that they might be useful to the country; and if any one has a right to experience disgust, it is indeed Mr. Caron, when he reflects that the man to whom he sincerely desired to be useful, has done all that lay in his power to ruin him.

Mr. Caron does not pretend to possess an amount of money equal to that possessed by Mr. Lafontaine; nevertheless, he affirms, and can prove, if there is any necessity, that he has never humbled himself before power, not even before that of Mr. Lafontaine, who has had more than one opportunity of learning that Mr. Caron, far from ever so wanting in energy, has been sufficiently energetic to keep himself free from the egotistical whims of a man whom his most violent partisans detest, and who, in any case, they themselves cannot act for.

Mr. Caron has never betrayed any one, nor attempted to exalt himself at the expense of any person whatever; would that as much could be said of Mr. Lafontaine!

If we were not afraid of according to Mr. Lafontaine the only consolation which appears to be left for him in his position, viz., that of believing that he is to-day exactly where he was when he first entered the public life, we should say that he is deceiving himself; that his actual position is by no means so good as that in which he then was. At this time, to use the words of the "Review," he struggled with success to maintain union among the Canadians, and to destroy all cause of jealousy among them. Since that time, and lately above all, he has been and is now doing all that was required to engender and augment division among his fellow-countrymen, and to promote jealousy among them;

he is also now, as then, in the Opposition; but at that time he was respected, even by his political opponents. Let him say if to-day he is in the same position.

The author of the "Review" announces a fact to the public, which they will receive with surprise, because up to this time a contrary opinion has prevailed. It is that, in the debates, Mr. Lafontaine defended Mr. Caron against the attacks directed against him by Mr. Draper; and he adds that, in spite of all that has since taken place, by Mr. Lafontaine, does not regret it. Until the publication of the "Review" many persons were indignant, not only that Mr. Lafontaine had not repelled the injury done to Mr. Caron, but that he had participated in it by his words, *justice and manner*. That impression still prevails; the author of the "Review" will not dissipate it.

All honest men say, and they will continue to say: "Mr. Lafontaine ought to have defended Mr. Caron, he has not done it, and still he is not sorry for not having done it; but he will yet perhaps be sorry for it at a future day."

We do not envy Mr. Lafontaine this immaculate independence, of which he is so proud; it is not the opinion of all that he has preserved it, up to this time, so immaculate as he says; but we yield him the benefit of the doubt on this point, and we wish that he may preserve in the good resolution which he appears to have formed "of persevering in this independence, in all times and in all places."

Mr. Caron has not played a double part in this affair. Can Mr. Lafontaine say as much? Do we not know, now, that he demanded from Mr. Caron his letters and those of Mr. Draper, in the fear, he said, lest, without this precaution, he should chance, in conversation, to make mention of their contents; and that, moreover, after having obtained them, he showed them to all who wished to see them, and quoted in their deliberate publication!

Was Mr. Lafontaine altogether sincere when he informed the author of the "Review" that he (Mr. Lafontaine) was ignorant of the existence of the letter of the 8th of September to Mr. Draper? At the time that he gave this information, and long before, Mr. Lafontaine had in his possession the letter of the 17th of September, of which he had received a copy on the 25th of October, and in which he could read: "my last will have apprised you that I had laboured to fulfil this promise." Mr. Lafontaine, then, when reading this letter, had heard the existence of another letter to Mr. Draper, anterior to that of the 17th; if he was aware of it, why does he say that he was not? As to the contents of this letter, if Mr. Lafontaine had desired to become acquainted with it, Mr. Caron would have had much pleasure in communicating them to him, seeing that this communication contains not a single line not a single word which Mr. Caron could not have written to Mr. Lafontaine, and which he is not now ready to defend. It is this which we are now about to do, through the medium of some observations which, if printed dispassionately, will dissipate the suspicions which it has been attempted to fix on Mr. Caron in regard to a letter, which he, without controversy, that which does him the most honour, and bears the highest testimony to his patriotism and his desire to be useful to his country, and, above all, to his own fellow-citizens. It has, moreover, been the unworthy pretence which has been made use of for injuring a man who has never inflicted an injury on his persecutors; who, on the contrary, has benefited many of them, and who will ever esteem himself happy in being able to serve his country, knowing how to distinguish between some men, of whom he has just cause of complaint, and the party to which he belongs from conviction, from affection, from principle; the party to which, despite the injustice of its leader, he is forever always to belong. The simple perusal of this letter that it was only preparatory, and intended to inform Mr. Draper that the project of bringing about a coalition had not been abandoned; that Mr. Caron was occupied

REVIEW OF THE "REVIEW OF THE PAMPHLET OF M. CARON."

about it; that the difficulties which had been foreseen, though great, were not insurmountable; that certain friends, who had been consulted at Quebec, were of this opinion; that he was awaiting the answer of those to whom he had written at Montreal to broach the subject. He said that the chiefs of the party seemed to be well disposed that they had been to consent to the contemplated arrangement; that, for instance, there was in the District of Quebec a change which Mr. Caron denounces a *reaction*, which renders a coalition of parties more easy to be brought about, and he adds that if the election of the new Solicitor General took place, which Mr. Caron expects, this success will be a proof of the change or reaction which he believes to exist, and will assist in the execution of the plan formed between Messrs. Caron and Draper, viz. that of bringing about a coalition which would result in the advantage of the country; and, particularly, to that part of the population to which Mr. Caron belongs. All this was introduced as coming from Mr. Caron at a time when he was ignorant of the opinions of Mr. Lafontaine and his friends at Montreal.

Such is the substance of this letter, which has given the occasion of many reproaches being indulged in very unjust to Mr. Caron, and which may be recapitulated as follows:—

1st. Was Mr. Lafontaine ignorant of the existence of this letter, and is it true that, had he known of its existence, he would not have addressed Mr. Caron in the terms he did?

2d. Mr. Caron was consulting his friends at Quebec.

3d. Mr. Lafontaine did not know the persons consulted.

4th. The letter contained an incorrect statement of facts.

These allegations have already appeared in an article of the *Pilot* of the 11th of April, published anterior to the pamphlet, and at a time when Mr. Lafontaine and his friends boasted of having defended Mr. Caron in the House, and loudly declared that they would defend him throughout and against every one.

It may be permitted as here to remark, *en passant*, that if the defence that were deemed for him, were of the nature of that with which the organ of Mr. Lafontaine has favoured Mr. Caron in the article in question, our readers will agree with him that he has acted wisely in not placing too much confidence in the succour which was promised him. — But let us answer the reproaches based on the letter of the 8th.

1st. Mr. Lafontaine was ignorant of the existence of this letter; we have already disposed of this by saying "that the letter of the 17th, in the possession of Mr. Lafontaine, proves the contrary."

Mr. Lafontaine, then, was aware of the existence of a letter which was not in his possession; he could then have asked for it, as he did for the others; had his request been refused, the case would have been different. But even if the opinion expressed in it should not have been agreeable to Mr. Lafontaine, this would not have been the first time that Mr. Caron had stated to him, with the utmost freedom, his own opinions, although he knew full well that he had not the happiness of seeing those opinions concurred in by Mr. Lafontaine.

It is, moreover, of some importance to remark here, that in the actual case, Mr. Caron was right, and that he had the singular and rare advantage of entertaining, on this occasion, the same opinions as Mr. Lafontaine. We will further add, *en passant*, that the friends of Mr. Lafontaine in the District of Quebec, and those who are not his friends, will, doubtless, confess their obligations to the frankness and sincerity of the editor of the *Pilot*, to whom they are indebted for the latter information that not only have they no part to take in the direction of the affairs of the Province, that not only every thing should be regulated and organized at Montreal, but that it is even an error, worthy of being pointed out in the public journals, to consult at Quebec on an affair of the importance of that with which Mr. Caron was charged.

Let us hope that this sort of sincerity on the part of the *Pilot* will not be lost, and that it will have the effect of opening the eyes of the worthy inhabitants of the district of Quebec as to the opinions entertained, in the Capital, of their importance and value.

It is thus that we reply to the second reproach, viz. that of having held a consultation at Quebec.

To the third we reply, by observing that, when Mr. Lafontaine dictated to the *Pilot* the article of the 11th, in which is found the following question:—

"Who were the other persons with whom Mr. Caron was in communication at Quebec?" He, Mr. Lafontaine, had in writing, from the hand of Mr. Caron, the names of certain friends consulted at Quebec. Let Mr. Lafontaine deny this fact.

What remains to be said respecting the letter in question, relates to the "reaction" which Mr. Caron stated to exist in the district of Quebec, and also to what he said respecting the election of the new Solicitor General Mr. Taschereau, as a return for Dorchester was then in question; the subject, as it is, of the fourth reproach, which has no better foundation than the others, as we shall presently see.

On the 8th of September, Mr. Caron writes to Mr. Draper: "*The heads of our party here seem to me to be much better disposed, and there is no doubt that matters are gradually working round into a change or reaction, in which I entertain great hopes of the arrangement and realization of our project; if, as I hope, the election of the new Solicitor General is carried, the success will have a good effect, and will be a proof of the reaction to which I advert.*"

The question, which the reading of this passage suggests, is it—to know, if there was a change in the District of Quebec, of a nature to facilitate the project of Messrs. Caron and Draper; and next—if the success of Mr. Taschereau in his election, was a proof of this change. At the period when Mr. Caron wrote public opinion in Quebec, was divided as to the reality of this change; some believed it, others denied it, but all agreed to this change, whether real or not, by the name of *reaction*; if he had thought otherwise, he would never have undertaken to bring about a union (*rapprochement*) of parties; this attempt would have been useless, for to attain this end, it must necessarily have happened that this reaction existed. Indeed every one knows that, at the time of the resignation of Mr. Lafontaine and his colleagues, all their partisans, and they themselves were of opinion that they could not return to power in part,—they had retired in a body, and their return to office could only be in the same manner, and consequently the removal of their successors, must be general, and all must retire in a body. This opinion which prevailed a long time after the resignation, is the cause which prevented Mr. Morin, and perhaps some members of the old ministry, from resuming the places, which they had left, and from holding new ones. Then, and for a certain time afterwards they said, as too often they have said—"all or none" (*tout ou rien*.) This same opinion, Mr. Lafontaine knows it, has hindered some of his friends—French Canadians, from acceding to propositions which have been made to them, and which would have been the means of putting into the administration, certain number of persons of their origin. Their acceptance of the proposals, which were made to them would have been the means of giving to their countrymen, a reasonable part in the direction of affairs, and to render the administration as favorable to their interests as it could be, without Mr. Lafontaine constituting a part of it. This refusal was founded on the opinion, that it was not just to come in competition with men whose conduct they approved, and to whom they hoped justice would be rendered—whom shortly they would see in power. At length, when by a succession of several injudicious and unskillful demands it became certain, that the realization of a hope which they had so much cherished was impossible, they began to ask themselves if it would not be seasonable to put a termination to a state of things which could not last longer, without great incumbrances to the whole country in general—for Lower Canada in particular, but above all for the French Canadians. Mr. Caron was one of those who thought that this state of things should be changed, that they had waited sufficiently, and that the time was arrived when a change ought to take place, and we ask now if this opinion was not participated in, by a great number of the inhabitants of the District of Quebec who first were of opinion to wait, and who afterwards thought that it would be wrong to do so any longer. If this fact be correct, (and it is easy to verify it) does it not follow that a change had operated in their minds; that this change, was slow and gradual; but that it is really existed, with those who, like Mr. Caron, wished to put an end to this state of things. These would have been satisfied if Mr. Lafontaine, knowing that he could not join so desirable an arrangement, and sacrificing to his country every sentiment of interest or personal vanity, had, of his own accord, engaged his friends, to leave him out for the moment, and to do, without him, what the position of the country demanded, in promising them all his support and assistance.—If he had acted thus, a year back or so, he would have deserved well of his country, he would have shown himself the true patriot that he pretends to be, but which he is not: since on the eve of the departure of Lord Metcalfe, a departure which put aside the obstacles to his return to power Mr. Lafontaine wrote, to be published, the celebrated and modest letter of 10th September, in which, for the first time, he shows

a disinterestedness, a self-denial, which the defenders of Mr. Lafontaine have brought forward with such ostentation, but which, however, to the eyes of several, lose their merit, because of the period when this patriotic transport escaped from the bosom of the skillful man, who now takes upon himself so much glory for having rejected the offer it was wished to extend to him of a dignity envied by so many others. Many think, that this laudatory declaration, proves one fact, and one fact only: it is that he who made this declaration would prefer the misery to the bench, and political intrigue, to the security and hominess of the administration of justice.

With those who entertained these opinions, a change was operating, when they called *reaction*. From whence we must conclude, that there really was a reaction in the district of Quebec, when Mr. Caron wrote to Mr. Draper. There is more, the same change existed at Montreal with Mr. Lafontaine himself, since it he had persevered in the opinion that he entertained at the period of his resignation and afterwards, he could not have given his assent to the projected arrangement, (which he approves of however in his letter of the 10th September) although it was entirely based on the agreement, to leave in the administration, which Mr. Lafontaine had promised to support, although he should not constitute a part of it, several members who had replaced the colleagues of Mr. Lafontaine who they passed by (*passé de côté*), Mr. Lafontaine himself, and several others who had resigned at the same time with him. If September, then there was a change or reaction, not only at Quebec, but at Montreal; not only with Mr. Caron, but with Mr. Lafontaine himself. This reaction existed in the County of Dorchester, as in the remainder of the District; and the proof of it, that Mr. Taschereau succeeded in getting himself elected for this county, at a time when they knew he was to join the existing administration: a success that he could not have obtained if there had not been a reaction in the minds of the electors; then the election of the new *Sol. Gen.* was a fair test, and was indeed a proof of the reaction existing in the district of Quebec. This success of Mr. Taschereau could have a good effect since Mr. Lafontaine's *rapprochement*, to which Mr. Lafontaine consented, which might have been advantageous, and which, perhaps, would have been realized, if Mr. Lafontaine had acted otherwise than he did. Mr. Caron then has not labored to create a reaction, but has only endeavored to point out its fact; there was no impropriety in writing to Mr. Draper, concerning this notorious fact, avowed by Mr. Lafontaine himself; then this information could be given without the permission of Mr. Lafontaine; then it was not a crime to prefer Mr. Taschereau to Mr. Patton, as the representative of Dorchester; then the reproaches founded on the letter of the 8th September, are unjust; then Mr. Lafontaine, in place of giving countenance to them, should have rebuked them; that Mr. Caron, as on this point, exempt from blame.

But to sustain the conclusions, which have just been deduced, let us enter into further details on this matter, supporting them by facts.

If we return to the period of the general elections in 1841, we shall bear in mind that in Lower Canada, the programme was only to elect those who approved of the resignation of the Lafontaine-Baldwin administration, and that there was a exacted from every candidate a profession of political faith, formally explaining that he would support with his vote, the return to power of all those who had composed that administration, and that he would oppose every other administration—a profession of faith, which the *Minors* even exacted, when there was a question of electing the Hon. L. J. Papineau for the county of Nicolet. The result of the elections in Upper Canada was very different from what was expected; Mr. Baldwin's party was beaten, and the Tory party achieved a victory important from its number over the liberal party of that section of the province, of which Mr. Baldwin was the chief. Nevertheless, the ex-ministers and their partisans yet insisted more strongly upon the return to the ministry of Mr. Baldwin, and his colleagues of Upper Canada, which was, in fact, putting forth and sanctioning the principle of governing the majority of Upper Canada by the minority, or in other terms, to rule the majority of Upper Canada, by the minority of that section of the province united to the majority of Lower Canada; or better yet, to wish really to govern Upper Canada by the Lower Canada liberal majority, and all the efforts of the ex-Ministers were directed to the adoption of this principle during the sessions of 1844 and 1845.

The Journal, *Le Canadien*, in a long series of articles attacked the principle put forth by the opposition, and showed the absurdity, the injustice, and the dangers of it to the French Canadian

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REVIEW OF THE "REVIEW OF THE PAMPHLET OF M. CARON,"

population. But driven into extremity by the arguments of the *Canadians*, the *Minerve* was forced to abandon the principle of governing Upper Canada by the means of Lower Canada, and admitted in formal terms that in each section of the province the majority must govern. But to make this admission more plain, we will copy the words of the *Minerve* of 17th April, 1842,—"If then we could accomplish a ministerial arrangement, by the means of which each of the two majorities of Upper and Lower Canada could see and accept its respective responsibilities, in favor both of the government, and that with the condition, THAT NEITHER OF THE TWO MAJORITIES SHOULD RULE THE OTHER, WE BELIEVE THAT THE PRINCIPLE, AND PERHAPS THE ONLY DIFFICULTY WOULD BE OVERCOME. This plan is simple, moderate, and eminently CONSTITUTIONAL AND CONSISTENT, we think, if adopted, it would assure the happiness of the province, and strengthen its connection with the Mother Country. Beyond this, we say in perfect sincerity, we are only difficulties and insurmountable obstacles." And further down, "It will not then be argued by THOSE ENLIGHTENED MINDS, that Upper Canada must not be governed by Lower Canada, or Lower by Upper, for to those who would so excel- lent a doctrine, we must declare we do not wish to argue with, as they would have already proved TO THE HEARTS ARE NECESSARY. TO THE SOUND SENSEMENT OF JUSTICE, AND THAT LAKE SIGNS ARE CLOSD TO THE MOST EVIDENT AND BENEFICIAL CONVICTIONS." This was, and nobody can reasonably deny it, this was to admit a doctrine quite opposite to that which had been propagated in the elections in 1841 by the efforts of the opposition—it was a complete change, a manifest reaction, in the opposition. This was then to admit the necessity of a coalition ministry formed from the respective majorities of Upper and Lower Canada, which, roughly be the parties, and whatever the political principle sustained, and defended by these two majorities. Mr. Lafontaine was then by his organ the *Minerve*, reactor and chief of the reaction, and to prove that Mr. Lafontaine had all this opinion in September 1842, it is sufficient to call the attention of the reader to the following extract of his letter to Mr. Caron, dated 14th September, 1842—"I must first remark, that I infer from the tenor of your letter, although it is not expressed in precise terms, that YOU ARE OF OPINION THAT IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH THE COUNTRY IS PLACED, THE MAJORITY OF EACH PROVINCE MUST GOVERN RESPECTIVELY IN THE SENSE WHICH WE ATTACH TO THAT OPINION, THAT IS TO SAY, THAT UPPER CANADA OUGHT TO BE REPRESENTED IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DAY BY MEN POSSESSING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE POLITICAL PARTY OF THAT SECTION OF THE PROVINCE, WHICH HAS THE MAJORITY IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, AND THAT IT OUGHT TO BE THE SAME WITH REGARD TO LOWER CANADA. LET IT BE SO; and if it is your opinion, it seems to me that it furnishes you the means of offering to Mr. Draper, SOUND AND IRRESISTIBLE REASONS to sustain advice, when you may have given him in accordance with the opinion. The present administration, as to Upper Canada, is formed on this principle, but with Lower Canada, its formation rests ON AN OPPOSITE PRINCIPLE. Why this distinction between the two sections of the province? Is there not in this single fact, A THOUGHT OF INJUSTICE, OF OPPRESSION EVEN?"

Does not Mr. Lafontaine, by the extracts which we have just transcribed, pledge himself to the principle of governing by two majorities? Does he not abandon the principle on which the elections of 1841 confided? We appeal to any sensible and impartial man? And if he had not admitted this reaction of principle, how could he ask that the majority should govern Lower Canada, as it does in Upper Canada. How could he enter into correspondence with Mr. Caron without admitting this principle as all its consequences? It is then by the most unbecoming bad faith, that they reproach Mr. Caron with having made use of that word *reaction* in his letter to Mr. Draper, and the only one of the sheets of Mr. Taschereau. That gentleman declared himself in favor of the political views of the French Canadian majority, his election must prove that there was, at not in the District of Quebec, at least in the most populous of the Counties of that District, a reaction, as much as the population of that County electing Mr. Taschereau Solicitor General, for its representative nominated the pretensionist Farby by Lower Canada in 1841, of insisting on the return to power of all the ex-Ministers, and by seven abandoned the cause of Mr. Ayrault, one of the ex-Ministers, whom Mr. Taschereau replaced. Besides accepting the views of the *Canadians* Mr. Lafontaine must necessarily accept the principle of governing with the two majorities, for without the adoption of this principle the two provinces in the following dilemma—either Lower Canada governed Upper Canada, or Upper Canada governed Lower Canada. Now Mr. Lafontaine could not have thought for an instant that Upper Canada would allow itself to be governed by the French population of Lower Canada; neither could he be willing to accept for his countrymen, the prospect of being governed by the English population of Upper Canada united to that of Lower Canada. Besides upon the principle of governing with the two majorities that Mr. Lafontaine has accepted the Union of the Counties. It is in consequence of regarding it as the only rational and just system that Mr. Lafontaine on his entry in the ministry in his speech in the House, 17th September, 1842, laid down this principle which he repudiated at his resignation: a principle, on which depended, and on which still depends the future safety of his country—and to which he has returned as above shown. In returning to this principle, Mr. Lafontaine has then made a formal act of *reaction* in his political doctrines. He has been as much as he could be so, the chief of this reaction, or of this change in the public opinion which repudiated the principle, on which the general elections in Lower Canada had been made in 1841. How, without this reaction, could he reasonably hope to see himself and the other ministers of Lower Canada, recalled to power. We ask Mr. Lafontaine himself. So much for the justice and good faith of the reproach made against Mr. Caron, on the subject of the *reaction*

A word now, on the pretended double correspondence of which Mr. Caron has been accused by the author of the *Review*.

Upon this subject, it will suffice to say, that the public as in possession of all of the correspondence which has concerned the present discussion; the pamphlet contains a faithful summary of the conversations which Mr. Caron has had on the subject with Mr. Draper. With him, he has had none but those admitted, as to the *Canadians* as well as to the subject of these conversations, Mr. Caron has no doubt as to his correctness as to the facts, which he has had with Mr. Lafontaine, if they have been correctly reported, or if a casual part has been suppressed, as Mr. Lafontaine says—we will see.

As to the letters to and from Mr. Draper, they have all been published, with the exception of the one of 1st July, indicated in the pamphlet; this one has not been published because it is purely a personal matter to Mr. Caron, it has, however, been sent to a friend with permission to publish it with the remainder, should it be considered necessary to do so. It has been omitted, because, of the opinion, that it would have been useless as Mr. Caron is in possession of the original of this letter, and will have great pleasure in privately communicating to any person who may feel an interest in the perusal of it, or who would even desire to read it.

The answer to this note, which announces that Mr. Caron must proceed to Montreal, has not been published, no copy having been kept. Mr. Draper can say if he has received from Mr. Caron, others than those published, and the above named two.

As to the unpublished part on of the correspondence which was exchanged between Messrs. Lafontaine and Caron, it is in the hands of the former, as in the hands of the latter. Let Mr. Lafontaine publish it if the course appear to him advantageous; he is not accustomed to deny himself in this particular; this publication may draw some of his friends before the public, without much necessity; the movement might be disagreeable to his friends, but Mr. Lafontaine is not accustomed to be stopped by any such considerations, when his vanity and his personal interest require it. Let him publish these private and confidential notes; he has the power; in doing so he will only repeat what he has already done; and yet quite recently in giving up to the author of the "Review" the private note of Mr. Caron dated 19th September. That note contained the names of two individuals unconnected with the present difficulty;—that was the reason which hindered Mr. Caron from giving it publicity; and it is just that very reason which has engaged Mr. Lafontaine to publish it; he would have been so prepared, to have passed by an opportunity to vent against these gentlemen a *petty spite* which he has already shown to others. There remain in the "Review" a good number of things which ought to be corrected; but enough for to-day; if time permit, all circumstances should require it, the task shall be resumed, for instance, with regard to the unmentioned praises given to Mr. Lafontaine, and the unjust allusion extended to other persons to his advantage. We will then profit by the opportunity to dedicate a few lines to certain journalists in the idea of engaging them to be discreet on a question which concerns them but little; persuaded that they ought to be so, that in persevering in the way they have followed until now, they will do themselves more injury than they benefit the bad cause they defend.

*Extract of a speech of Mr. Lafontaine in the House of Assembly, 14th September, 1842.

"The proof that I wished, inasmuch as it depended on the will of my friends, to facilitate for the *Canadians*, and the means to carry out, what he called as a reason a great act of justice for the French Canadian population—then I did here several times to be seen in person supposing that I could have promoted myself to any of the members of Council, chosen in Upper Canada, I should thank it my duty, not to allow the celebration of UPPER AND LOWER CANADA OUGHT TO BE LEFT RESPECTIVELY TO THE COUNCILLORS OF EACH PROVINCE."

