

Council—this member and ex-leader of the Legislative Council. It now happens that his insinuations are as false as they are indecent and diabolical. It is not true that Sir Charles Metcalfe has been governing slaves for forty years. It is true that he has been a colonist forty years; but he has not been governor in a colony five years. In the first colony that he governed he set the press free, and resigned office in consequence of it, though his free policy has since been adopted by his then displeased superiors. It is true, as stated by Legion, that widows were burnt on the funeral piles of their husbands in that colony; and it is likewise true that Sir Charles Metcalfe established a free press and other collateral instrumentalities, which have effected the abolition of that inhuman practice. It is true that the second colony which Sir Charles Metcalfe was appointed to govern was really a *slave* colony when he found it; it is also true that he had an act of parliament in his pocket, which authorised him, if he thought proper, to abolish the Elective Assembly and establish the government of a Governor-in-Council. It is likewise true that he established the free legislature; that he abolished the last remnants of slavery; that in less than two years, he made that hitherto slave colony a free colony—with a free House of Assembly, more than one half of the members of which were and still are coloured persons, who had heretofore been serfs or slaves. It is also true that he governed both in India and Jamaica without preference of religious sect or party. It is furthermore true that he set both India and Jamaica in a blaze, amidst the coruscations of which he might have felt like dancing; for the blaze was that of a joyous illumination, that the press was unshackled, the widow was to live, caste was to cease, and the slave was free. And when Sir Charles Metcalfe found that there were forging by Legion and his compeers the shackles of a party despotism, as unrelenting as that which he had abolished in India and as exclusive and degrading as that which he had exterminated in Jamaica, he resolved to set his face and stake his all against the establishment of such slavery in Canada; and the blessings of a third colony will yet be upon him, and the blaze of a third illumination will yet throw its splendours around him, as the enemy of tyranny and the Wilberforce of liberty.

Legion's first letter is chiefly occupied with quirks, witticisms, and attacks upon myself—a subject as foreign to the questions of difference between Sir Charles Metcalfe and his late Counsellors, as Legion is foreign to truth, in the statements which he makes. I will make the Toronto "Committee of Public Safety" a present of them all, with two or three exceptions.

In all his letters, Legion has represented me as threatening the strength of the empire against the Toronto Committee and its adherents. I made no threat. I stated a fact, and drew an inference. I stated as a fact that the authorities of the empire had decided the question in dispute; as an inference, I said—"The strength of the empire will, of course, be employed (if need be) to support the decision of its authorities." Legion has not dared to contradict either my fact or my inference. I expressed precisely such a "threat" in 1834—although not on equally strong authority—and it was fulfilled in 1837. I suppose the empire will not employ less strength in 1847, to support the decision of its authorities, than it did in 1837. Perhaps I went too far. It will require but the fractional part of the strength of one province of the empire to deal with the military valour of Legion and his associates—unless there has been a great "reform" in their heroism since 1837. Legion may be more than a