

He commenced by reading question number one, and wrote down the answer as I gave it. In this way he went throughout the whole, which occupied till nearly one o'clock. He laughed heartily at my description of some of the characters the questions were about.

When I rose to leave him, I begged he would excuse me for putting one question to him, in return for the many I had answered. He said, certainly, and that I would find him answer as frankly as I had done, and which had given him the greatest satisfaction.

I then begged to know how he was aware so humble an individual as I was in Montreal. He answered he knew me well before the present meeting. I replied, that was a mystery to me. He laughingly asked me if I had not had frequent communications with the Earl of Durham. I told him I had. He said, "His Lordship recommended me to see you early, as I might depend on a frank, fearless answer to any questions I might require to ask you. And his Chief Secretary, Mr. Buller, also told me if I wished to get information and the naked truth, I should, on arrival, send for you, which you see I have done."

From that day till his death his attention and kindness was unceasing. When he formed the council for the City he appointed me first alderman, in which capacity I acted from the middle of 1839 to the end of 1842. Being uniform and pointed in my attendance at all their meetings, I was very generally on the different committees. This consumed so much of my time that I refused to allow myself to be re-elected.

The end of 1840, His Excellency informed me, he had appointed me a Legislative Councillor, and in the Spring of 1841, I received from Britain my mandamus. Being obliged to go to Kingston from three to four months a year, living there at a great expense, and away from my business, I thought was paying rather high for this honour. But now the Houses of Parliament are to sit here, I will be saved all this.

The present Governor General, Sir C. Metcalf, has always been quite kind and attentive to me ever since he came to this country. But I cannot help thinking that at my first interview with His Excellency, now Lord Metcalf, having in answer to some of his questions, frankly, if not warmly, expressed my confidence in several of his first Executive Councillors, was in the way of my becoming a favourite with him. From all that passed at that first interview, and from what I have since seen and heard, I am firmly convinced he was prejudiced against these gentlemen from the first. In none of our frequent interviews afterwards did he open to me on politics or public characters, until at a meeting I had with him in the Old Government House in August last.

He had been much vexed and perplexed in trying to make up a new Ministry, that would command the confidence of the country, and consequently a majority in the Legislative Assembly. He opened frankly on this subject,