

formed a patriotic and Christian duty to my sovereign and native country, and seeing the great objects in progress of accomplishment on account of which I had been urged, even by the London committee's agents, in 1838, to resume the editorship of the *Guardian*, after three years' retirement from it, I formally took my leave of public discussions, and in a few weeks, on the assembling of the conference in June, 1840, retired from the editorship of the *Guardian*, as I had always declared my intention of doing on the moment of settling the Clergy Reserve question. Since that time, April, 1840, I have never written a line on civil affairs, nor in any way interfered in them.

It might be reasonably supposed, that, by such a six months' conclusion of my editorial career, in which I had given great satisfaction to the government, and to my brethren and friends in Canada, my retirement would not be interrupted from England. Yet, within four days of the assembling of the Canada conference, in that very month, June, 1840, I was accosted with the London Wesleyan committee's grave and criminating charges. And during the very month that I was thus politically impeached by the Wesleyan committee, my brethren and myself received the following testimony from his Excellency Lord Sydenham, in a reply to an address of the Canada conference:—"During my administration of the affairs of Upper Canada, it was my anxious desire to make myself acquainted with the opinions, with the conduct, and with the affairs of that portion of the people of the province of whom you are the spiritual leaders; and I have been most happy in being able to bear my testimony to their loyalty and good conduct, not less than to your zeal, energy, and self-devotion in the pursuit of your conscientious labors."

Dr. Alder introduces, with quite a flourish of trumpets, the testimony of the late lieutenant-governor of New Brunswick in favor of the labors of Wesleyan missionaries in that province; but it is not so explicit and full as that of the governor-general in favor of the Canada conference; and I think the testimony of Lord Sydenham is entitled to quite as much consideration as that of Sir John Harvey. But what a comment does the testimony of Lord Sydenham furnish upon the representations and aggressions of Dr. Alder and others against the Canada conference!

And then, after the separation took place, last autumn, when the metropolitan missionary meetings of the London committee and the Canada conference were held in this city (Toronto, my own pastoral charge), what was the manifest feeling of the heads of departments? Did they act as if they regarded us as enemies, and the agents of the London committee as the only friends of the government?

At their meeting there was not a single officer of the government, not even a clerk in any public department, present. At our meeting the hon. president of the executive council (the premier of Canada) presided, supported on the right by the hon. receiver-general (chancellor of the Canada exchequer, and brother-in-law to Lord Glenelg), and on the left by the hon. solicitor-general, both members of the executive council or cabinet. And a large majority of the newly-