

Chief Justice arose from a desire to prevent some evil to the public service (the extent of which I could not tell), if Mr. Wood continued in the Commission.

With reference to the Chief Justice's statement to your Excellency that I informed him that Dr. Strachan had advised an appeal to the law for redress, I certainly remember perfectly to have told the Chief Justice that I had ascertained to my satisfaction that Dr. Strachan had never known the extent of what was imputed to Mr. Wood; and that on the present occasion he had plainly told him that if "he did not clear himself of these charges, he, Dr. S., must clear himself of 'him.'" It must be to this the Chief Justice has given the above interpretation; but as by a similar latitude it might be inferred that I had denounced Dr. Strachan to the Chief Justice as the instigator of a prosecution designed to ruin him, I hope to be forgiven for remarking that my knowledge of your Excellency's desire of effecting harmony and unanimity, and the discomfort I have already experienced in the necessary official intervention where discordant feelings unhappily prevail, would, as well as common sense and honor forbid any intention, on my part, to excite feelings which I have ever seen your Excellency so desirous to allay; and it would little accord with a remark I remember to have made to your Excellency, of the light in which I view Dr. Strachan's conduct on the present occasion.

I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's most faithful and obedient Servant,  
J. HILLIER.

I certify that this writing and signature upon this paper is in the proper handwriting of Lieutenant-Colonel Hillier, late Secretary to Sir P. Maitland.

EDWARD McMAHON.

York, 10th Jan. 1831.