

horizon is again dark. Revolt has again broke out in the neighbouring Province ; and, although we fondly hope that the fears of good men may prove groundless, and the expectations of wicked men may be utterly blasted, still, it must be evident to you that, under existing circumstances, it would be highly inexpedient to take any steps by which the angry passions of men may be excited, the public attention distracted, or the hands of the Government in such an emergency weakened. God forbid, Brethren, that we should do aught to embarrass the Government, or aid in any way the wicked devices of traitorous men. Nor do we conceive that much can now be gained by petitioning the Legislature. To suppose that the Government needs yet to be informed of what is the mind of the public on these matters to which the petitions would refer, is an insult to the observation and understanding of our rulers ; and to suppose that the Government is fully aware of the mind of the public, and yet resolved to treat it with reckless indifference, were to believe that that last and sorest curse which could befall a people, has befallen us—an infatuation—a fatal blindness in the rulers of the people. Far be it from us to suppose, that this curse of Almighty God has yet come upon us.

You know well, Brethren, that we are not in the habit of giving flattering titles to our rulers. We are convinced that our loyalty is much better shown by deeds than by words, and better shown when uttered in words, in the simple, manly and honest language of the heart, than in high-flown eulogy.—At the same time we apprehend, that under the peculiar circumstances in which the country is placed, we are called upon to declare our entire confidence in the wisdom and integrity of the Lieutenant Governor ; and our conviction, that when he is more fully acquainted with the state of the colony, and the character of the people, he will pursue an enlightened, liberal, and conciliating policy. It is easy to perceive that in such a crisis as the present, much must depend upon the character of the Chief Magistrate of the Province : and we regard it as a token for good that God, in his providence, has so ordered it that the Representative of our Sovereign, at this juncture, is a man who possesses high talents, and whose mind, we fondly trust, is imbued with religious truths—who holds and wishes to exemplify liberal and patriotic principles. In a word, with such men at the head of affairs, have we not, under God, much to hope, and if the people are but faithful to the Government, and true to themselves, little indeed to fear.

This leads us to remark, briefly, that you are now specially called upon, Brethren, to exemplify ardent loyalty and unshaken attachment to the Government and constitution under which you live. Obedience to rulers in what is right, is a christian duty, and must not be resolved into mere expediency, or dealt with according to the calculations of a low selfishness. While rulers are God's ministers for good, are a terror to evil doers, and a praise and protection to those

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