

[From the Montreal Courier, July 23.]

Opinion on the character of Sir Charles Metcalfe, by Mr. Wakefield.

Independently of its truth and accuracy—which is vouched for by other sources—the sketch of Sir Charles Metcalfe is one of the most striking pieces of historical portraiture I have met with. The subject is a fine one, and the picture is worthy of him.

The first and a very large portion of the story must consist of some account of the singular character of Sir Charles Metcalfe. It is a common saying in Canada, that the Governor General works like a slave. His work, however, differs from that of a slave, inasmuch as he seems to take great pleasure in it. I have never known anybody in public or private life who appeared to love labour for its own sake. It is not that he indulges in but little relaxation; for he is incessantly at work except when eating or sleeping. The hours of papers which most men look at with ill-concealed dismay, and never intend to read through if they can help it, he grasps at with evident satisfaction and surely reads every word of their contents. Of the countless applications for interviews on business, most of which common Governors evade if they can, he never refuses still less evades, a single one. Nor does tirelessness fatigue him; it is said that he hears every story to the end, and never attempts to close an interview except by occasionally wearing out importunity by silence. How he finds the time is a problem; I know only that he is never in a hurry.

The public often hears of Sir Charles Metcalfe's munificence. That might be, to a person of his fortune, an easy mode of self-gratification. But if his unknown charities may be measured by reference to the small portion of such acts of mere benevolence which usually becomes known, he gives more away secretly than in public. Nor is his kindness of heart alone displayed in helping people who want money; it appears in the form of a ready sympathy with every case of suffering, and still more agreeably in a never-failing and most delicate consideration for the feelings of others. That generosity which has been called politeness of the heart is especially his.

And this reminds me to speak of another kind of charity, which seems to be one of his habits. I mean the spirit of toleration; the predisposition to think well of everybody; the unwillingness to condemn; the love of favourable construction of the opinions and acts of others; the total absence of the bad part of what the phrenologists call combativeness.

A strong love of justice generally accompanies the quality last described. In Sir Charles Metcalfe it appears to be always active. I believe it to be the governing motive of every one of his decisions on two-sided matters. On several occasions I have advised applicants to him for the redress of an injury, to be sure and explain the injustice they had suffered; and the result always answered my expectations. I fancy that I could with certainty foretell his determination in any case involving a question of justice.

The kindred qualities of sincerity and honesty have their natural places in this large family of virtues. But they are more than commonly vigorous in Sir Charles Metcalfe; not merely so, but the reader would take for granted, incapable of saying the thing which is not true, he will say the full plain truth to his own great disadvantage, whenever his silence about it would be apt to leave a wrong impression on anybody's mind. And as for honesty, it is not enough to say that nothing would persuade him to take an unfair advantage; he can hardly bring himself to take a fair one. It may be questioned whether he would train his own horse for a race if he thought the other horses would not be trained; he would hesitate about engaging counsel to manage his cause if the other party were too poor or silly to employ counsel. Some may think I am describing a goose; but such is the man; and it will seem in the sequel, that a description of this man's peculiar character is a necessary part of my explanation.

For the direct purpose of stating the fact, it was needless to say that Sir Charles Metcalfe dislikes in others every species of deceit and over-reaching. I say it for the indirect purpose of exhibiting a very different trait in his character. Trickery excites in him a feeling very like anger. And yet it is not anger; for instead of having great command of temper, or an excellent temper, he is really without a temper. I have witnessed such patience under provocation. I am speaking now of what I saw myself, and could not have believed without seeing. It was not merely quiet endurance, but a constant good-natured cheerfulness of heart, in the midst of trouble enough to provoke a saint or make a strong man ill. To those who, like me, have seen three Governors of Canada literally worried to death, this was a glorious spectacle.

To self-reliance few are equal to Sir Charles Metcalfe, more superior. He never turns to his neighbour to ask what he thinks or what ought to be done. Like a spider, its web out of its own body, he spins his opinions out of his own brain; and then, as their formation was not affected, so are they an amenable by and external influence.

This is a dangerous quality, unless accompanied by abundance of caution. His caution may be termed a wariness that never sleeps. He is slow of decision. When examining questions, whether for judgement or action, he casts about as long as search of all the pros and cons, that you imagine he hesitates to decide. It is not hesitation,

but a deliberate circumspection. He won't be hurried. The only fear I ever observed in him was the fear of making a mistake through ignorance or inactivity. The time which he observed on deliberation was not always in proportion to the seeming importance or complication of the case; but still it was plain that he went by some rule which procured for all cases a great deal of consideration, and for each as much as sufficed to make him master of the whole case; not the general features only, but even the minutest particulars. It is again a puzzle to know how he found the time.

"Such circumspection or wariness is naturally communicative. Sir Charles Metcalfe must have a great bump of secretiveness. Though chatty (I would say fully, if it were not invidious) out of business, on business he never speaks unnecessarily. Even on occasions of the utmost interest to him, no word or look betrays his thoughts unless he chooses to disclose them; and then he speaks with absolute reserve. I was often amused by hearing of the total failure of attempts by old hands at Governor-pumping to get at his intention, or opinion or impression, when he had a mind to keep it to himself; and the cases were frequent in which a listener, accustomed to official conversation doubted the truth the truth of his communication because it was so complete and unimpeachable.

His courage is of the highest order, comprising both sorts of fearlessness; both the physical boldness which depends on nervous organization, and that much rarer, that far more admirable moral valour which resides in a powerful conscience. It has been said that conscience, in most men, is a usurpation of the opinions of others. Of this sort of conscience Sir Charles Metcalfe is curiously destitute. For example, the ordinary Governor of a colony, whose enjoyment of pay and authority is a great personal object to him, but whose government is not of sufficient importance to attract party notice at home, ever keeps in view, as the guide of his conduct, the purpose of doing what he thinks will be agreeable to the Colonial office and recommend to the favour of that department, while a Governor of higher social position at home, such as the ex-Cabinet Ministers and ex-Ambassadors whom the rebellions in Canada have recently induced the home Government to send thither as chief rulers, is commonly apt to think a great deal about the manner in which his acts, as Governor of the colony will affect his reputation and after-position at home; to consult much less the still smaller voice, than the opinion of the side of St. James street which happens to be that of his party club. Whereas God made Sir Charles Metcalfe greater than the Colonial Office; and sure I am he never dreams, nor would he care for it if he did, about what people may say of him at White's or Brook's. His own sense of right is his conscience.

In official and even professional life most consciences are double being composed of two senses, a public and private one, wherefore officials and lawyers often defend without shame what they would blush to think of doing in private life. But Sir Charles Metcalfe is a single conscience, and of the private kind; his whole public life accordingly is regulated by the obligations of honour or religion. Whether it is religion or that honour which chivalry has handed down to us from a religious source I cannot determine, because I have had no sufficient means of observing. But why not both in one as with the true knight of old? Taking this view along with Sir Charles Metcalfe's intimate friends, we should call him a Christian gentleman. The point, however, which I wish to impress, is that the conscience of the man, let us describe how we may, is the conscience of the Governor.

This moral instinct, combined with total disregard of personal consequences and the opinion of others, amounts to originality. Sir Charles Metcalfe accordingly does things that startle our. He squanders his own money, and saves that of the colony; he calls the reputation of the immediate predecessor; being told that any pardon of a French Canadian rebel, for which he should ask specifically, would be at once granted, and sent out to New South Wales, he asked a pardon for every one of those poor exiles, and then contributed handsomely to a subscription for enabling them to return to their country.

"Fine as this character is it is not without defects, or rather deficiencies. These must not be left out of a portrait, the object of which is to show how the qualities of an individual have influenced public affairs. "It appeared to me that in Sir Charles Metcalfe, the greatness of the moral qualities have left too little room for intellectual activity on the same grand scale. A dulness of the faculty of perception is obvious, and a consequent slowness in estimating the character and discerning the motives of other men. In powers of expression and argument, and consequently in the power of persuading or convincing, there is a striking deficiency in comparison with the greatness of the virtues before enumerated. Neither his pen nor his voice, therefore, ever properly expresses the noble sentiments of his heart, or the wise conclusions of his judgement. It follows that other people are apt to misconceive his aims and motives, and form an erroneous estimate of his character. I have imagined, also, that his mind is not accustomed to laying down plans for the attainment of definite ends; that his only plan is from time to time as events occur, to do whatever the sense of duty tells him is right at the time and for the occasion; that he always relies for success, not enough on the careful adoption of means to the end in view, nor even on a very clear conception of the end, but too much on some belief in the sufficient efficacy of goodness and devotion to

the public welfare. If, for example, the gaining of an election were of great importance to him, and he were urged to make or withhold some appointment with a view of inducing a majority of voters to support the government candidate he would stare, smile, thank you with much goodness and politeness for the friendly suggestion, and let you go away exclaiming—"This man has no notion of governing except by means of truth and justice." In this way partisans are discouraged. It may be grand, but is wholly at variance with the practice of representative government. The very magnificence of such a character has an overawing, even a depressing effect on others, wounds their self love, and breeds hatred in little minds."

THE STANDARD.

ST. ANDREWS, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 7, 1844

THE CANADIAN BANK.
HON. HARRIS HATCH, President.
T. B. WILSON, Esq., Solicitor.
Directors: Messrs. J. L. Wilson, Esq.
Discount Day—TUESDAY.
Hours of Business, from 10 to 2.

BILLS AND NOTES FOR DISCOUNT must be lodged with the Cashier, on or before MONDAY, otherwise they must lie over until next day.

ST. ANDREWS, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 7, 1844.
Commissioner next week—J. W. Chandler.

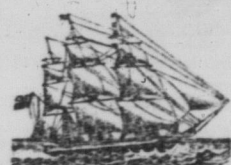
Saint Stephens Bank.
G. D. KING, Esq., President.
Director next week—N. Marks.
Discount Day—SATURDAY.
Hours of business, from 10 to 1.

BILLS AND NOTES FOR DISCOUNT must be lodged with the Cashier, on or before FRIDAY, otherwise they must remain in his hands until the following Sunday.

LATEST DATES

London, July 13 Montreal, July 26
Liverpool, July 19 Quebec, July 26
Edinburgh, July 9 Halifax, July 25
Paris, July 9 New York, July 31
Toronto, July 26 Boston, Aug. 2

ARRIVAL OF THE



CALEDONIA.

The English Mail which arrived at Halifax on Tuesday the 30th ult., was not received here until last evening, just eight days after its arrival at that port. Why this detention? A passenger who came in the Steamer, remained two days in Halifax, and arrived here on Saturday morning last—just four days earlier than the Mail—truly there is much cause of complaint. We do not wonder at the Merchants in St. Stephen, under their letters via the United States. It is an example worth copying.

From *Wilton & Smith's European Times*.
The result of the election contests for Birmingham forms one of the most prominent topics of English news. Mr. Spooner, a conservative, defeated two Chartists and Radical opponents; and the most extraordinary fact is that, even in this "hotbed of Radicalism," as the papers call it, Mr. S. carried off more votes than both his opponents put together. The result is a manifestation of popular confidence in the Government among the middle classes.

There has been some stirring in the Commons on a motion of Mr. Dancombe for a committee to enquire into the Post Office expenditure. The motion was seconded by the Government, and the Committee are proceeding their enquiries.

A new Railway Bill passed in the teeth of a strong opposition—by a majority of 185 to 93.

A rather personal debate on the gambling of the Turf took place in Parliament on the night of the 12th.

Lord Palmerston made a desperate attack on the Government, on the subject of the Slave Treaty, and was triumphantly answered by Sir Robert Peel, who unfolded the indefatigable, but as yet unsuccessful efforts to effect a union of all Christian nations for the suppression of the traffic.

The Irish State Trials.—The appeal to the House of Lords commenced on the 4th inst. Sir Thomas Wilde opened the case, showing 34 reasons why the verdict should be set aside, and was followed by other Counsel for the prisoners.

The arguments, pro and con, continued till the 10th inst., when the Judges dispersed to their Circuit, with the exception of Lord Chief Justice Tindal, who remained to prepare draft answers to the queries or points of law.

Mr. O'Connell in a letter to his Son, entertains no hope that the appeal will be successful.

France is agitated by an application of Louis Philippe, for provision for his children. He pleads poverty—the people say he is immensely rich. De-Joinville is fighting in Morocco, and is there reinforced by three regiments of Cavalry.

Spain—unhappy Spain!—is still convulsed with sedition.

Russia has at length acknowledged the constitutional government in Greece.

A parliamentary return states that the sums paid and owing to the reporters of the

State-trials in Ireland amounts to £3000. Mr. Kelly has been elected for Limerick; he is the first member who goes to Parliament pledged to attend the meetings of the Conciliation Hall.

The new Lord Lieutenant of Ireland is expected to enter on his duties at Dublin Castle, on the 20th inst. Lord de Grey and his suite left on the 15th.

Wheat has already been cut in Devonshire.

A naval station has been established at Cork. It is calculated that the O'Connell tribute will reach this year £300,000.

The Court felt—Buckingham Palace for Windsor on the 10th inst.

Dicken's novel—"Martin Chuzzlewit" has been dramatised at the Lyceum Theatre London.

Twenty thousand piteous met last week at Shadwell, who passed resolutions to continue the "strike."

The notorious Prince of Peace, who was Prime Minister under Ferdinand VII., has arrived at Madrid.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived at Woolwich, from the Continent, on the 10th ult.

Lieutenant Munro, who shot Col. Fawcett in a duel, is at present residing in Hamburg, with his wife and family.

Mr. William Ross Tucher, a brother to Lord Audley, is in custody, charged with shooting Thomas Smith, the proprietor of a shooting gallery in the back. The reason assigned by the prisoner was that he was very unhappy, and wished to be hung.

Steam-tugs, with screw propellers, have been successfully introduced on the Union Canal from Glasgow.

A shrine to the memory of Southey is about to be erected by subscription, in Cross-wait Church, Keswick.

The Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. Michael Kennedy as Consul at Galway, for the United States of America.

The Presbyterian General Assembly is now sitting at Derry, for the first time since the union of the Irish Presbyterians under the title.

Sir R. de Burgho, Bart., of Castle Connell, abjured the Church of Rome, and embraced the Protestant faith, at Castle-town-roche Church, in the County of Cork, on Sunday last.

Accounts have been received from Auckland, New Zealand, stating that the Hannah, a piratical brigantine, has been seized by the authorities, and that the crew have been committed for trial.

Repeal Buttons.—A crusade has been commenced by the Government, not only against repeal buttons, but also against green flags. At Limerick, the trading vessels had that emblem floating, as usual, in honour of the day, Sunday. A captain Postle, commanding a government steamer called the "Flamer," ordered the obnoxious flags to be taken down. The order, in most cases, was obeyed, and where it was not instantly complied with it was peremptorily torn down by his command.

TROOPS IN IRELAND.—A letter, it is said, has been received by the Commander of the Forces from the Horse Guards, inquiring if it would be safe to withdraw some of the troops from Ireland, the military force there being 26,700 men, exclusive of ten thousand pensioners, well armed and equipped. The reply was, that it would be unsafe to do so until O'Connell's release from prison. Some surprise has been expressed that nothing has emanated from Mr. O'Connell's since his imprisonment. The reason is said to be, that if any did appear, with his name, he would be deprived of pen and ink, and prevented from writing altogether.

The judges have decided that the claim of Sir Augustus D'Heste to the Dukedom of Sussex ought not to be allowed, and the House of Lords, has concurred in this opinion.

Tuesday's Gazette announced that the Lords of the Treasury having certified to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, that the actual surplus of revenue beyond the expenditure, for the year ending the 15th April last amounted to £2,095,427, 9s 7d the commissioners will apply one-fourth of the surplus to the purchase of stock and Exchequer Bills.

Earl de Grey took his departure from Dublin on Tuesday with military honors, after having received an address from the nobility, clergy and gentry of Ireland. The Right hon. Francis Blackburne, Master of the Rolls, and the Right hon. Sir Edward Blakeney, Commander of the Forces, were sworn in as lords justices. It was expected that Lord Heytesbury would arrive in Dublin on or about the 20th.

In the Peers on Monday, the 15th, the Bank of England Charter Bill was read a third time and passed.

A discussion arose on a motion of the Bishop of London, that the amendment of the Commons to the Dissenters' Chapel-Bill should be considered that day three months, in the course of which the Earl of Roden contended that this bill, if it should pass, would be a blot upon the statute book, which would be hereafter regarded with regret. He little thought, some five or six years ago, when he sat upon the opposite benches, together with the present Lord Chancellor, with whom he has united in opposing a measure of spoliation, known to their lordships as the appropriation clause, that the day would arrive when a measure far beyond the appropriation clause, as a measure of spoliation, would be brought forward by those who called themselves conservatives, and by whom he had so long acted in that character. The amendment was negatived by 202 to 41.

Peace in Ireland.—Baron Letroz opened the commission of Roscommon on the 6th inst, and congratulated the grand jury on the peaceable state of the country. As the

circuits proceed, further gratifying evidence is afforded of the extremely tranquil state of the country.

New Harbour at Aberdeen.—Works for a new Harbour at Aberdeen have been contracted for by Messrs. Oldham, builders and railway constructors, of Cheltenham. The sum £90,000. When completed, the new harbour will one of the most commodious in the kingdom.

Life and Times of O'Connell.—On the 13th inst., says an Irish paper, "Mr. O'Connell commenced his great literary labour his 'Life and Times,' or by what other style and title his projected autobiography is to be distinguished employing Mr. O'Neill Daunt as his amanuensis."

Revolution Frustrated.—General Sembrat, who recently fitted out an expedition in New Orleans for the purpose of revolutionizing Mexico, was captured on the coast—his vessel destroyed, his followers slain, and himself shot, his head taken off, fried in oil, and stuck up in terraces, in the principal piazza of Tobacco.

New Church at the Bermudes.—The foundation stone of the new Episcopal Church at Hamilton, Bermude, was laid with much ceremony on Monday the 1st July inst.—The novel and imposing ceremony brought together a numerous collection of persons from all parts of the Island.

Great Sale of Timber Lands by Maine and Massachusetts.—The Land Agents of these States sold by Auction in Bangor on the 17th July, eight whole Townships and parts of two others, of wilderness lands, comprising 194,425 acres, at prices varying from 50 cents to \$1.81 c. per acre.

Fire.—An alarm of fire was given on Monday night last, about 12 o'clock—which was found to proceed from an untenanted house on the race course—owned by the Rev. Dr. Alley.—The House was completely destroyed in a few minutes.

MARRIED

At St. John, on Thursday evening, by the Rev. I. A. D. Gray, Rector, Mr. Andrew Vance, to Miss Mary Ann Roberts, both of that city.

DIED.

On Saturday, the 27th inst. of the Scarlet Fever, Phoebe Jane, youngest daughter of Mr. James Stinson, aged three years and ten months.

At St. George, on the 27th ult., of Scarlet Fever, George John Thomson, in the 7th year of his age, only remaining son of the Rev. Samuel Thomson, Rector, of that Parish.

SHIPPING JOURNAL.

PORT OF ST. ANDREWS.

—ARRIVED—
Aug. 5, bge. Brunswick, Morrison, London-cerry, Ballast to Club.

—6, ship Britannia, Smith, Liverpool, Ballast, J. Wilson.

—CLEARED—
Aug. 5, schr. Mary Jane, McMaster, East-port, Ballast.

Loading at Liverpool, for St. Andrews, Lord Seaton, and Corbuet.

House To Let.

The Dwelling House and Store formerly owned by P. O'Neill, being an excellent stand for business.
Rent moderate—and immediate possession given, for Terms &c. apply to B. R. Fitzgerald, or to the Subscribers.

J. P. COLDWELL.

St. Andrews, August 6, 1844.
—Mr. Coldwell has on hand—
Beef, Pork, Superfine Flour, Kilm dried Corn Meal—and a superior article of Philadelphia Rye flour in a few days.

AUCTION.

TO be sold by Public Auction, on Monday, the Second day of September next, at the hour of noon, in front of the Market House, in the town of St. Andrews. The FARM now occupied by Robert Atchison, on the Western side of the Diddgash river, in the Parish of Saint Patrick's.

For terms of Sale, and other particulars apply to

GEO. D. STREET.

St. Andrews, August 3, 1844.

FARM FOR SALE!

THE Subscriber offers for Sale by Stipulation a FARM containing one hundred acres, situated in the parish of St. Patrick's on the East side of the Diddgash River, in what is commonly called the Irish Settlement, contiguous to a Church, a Great and Saw-mill. There is a good dwelling House fronted with a complete Barn and never-failing Spring well on the premises. It yields from eight to ten tons of Hay per annum. TERMS liberal. Apply to the Subscriber on the premises.

JAMES COCKBURN.

St. Patrick's, June 7th, 1844.

Shipping Lumber.

300 M. best Merchantable PINE BOARDS and PLANK, piled on a Wharf, in this Harbour, apply to

WM. WHITLOCK.

St. Andrews, April 3, 1843.

THE CHA AGRICUL

CATTLE

at the Farm of Andrews on 8 of OCTOBER where the will be a

For the best entailed in the Cows

second do. Best Blood

2nd do. 31 do.

For the best Bull second best

third do. "the best M"

second do. third do.

For the best pair years old

second do. third do.

For the best Heifer second do.

third do. For the best Ram

second do. third do.

For the best pair second do.

third do. For the best Sow

second do. third do.

For the best Sump bushes of Wh.

second do. third do.

For the best sample bushes of Oaks

second do. third do.

For the best sample bushes of Barle

second do. third do.

For the best ferns less than 40 lb

second do. third do.

For the best sample Wool Cloth not

second do. third do.

The whole of the produce or manufacture

(no one person to receive any two animals or any

or manufacture of the intending competitor

tary (free of postage) out to the Fair, of the

that he intends to off all persons not paid a

entry to the last annual entrance fee of 5s.

no animal, or any article, will receive

thought worthy of such prospective Committee's

purpose. It is further made, articles of prodt

ferred for competition, by 11 o'clock, or they

to.

By Order of D. D. M.

St. Andrews, July 1

NOT

DIVIDEND

A pence in the Pound Counting Room of Mr. Creditors of Thomas S.

ted the Deed of Release his Estate and Effects

H. HATCH.

J. W. STREE

St. Andrews, 27th J

Cottage at

To be sold tion in St. Andrews

AUGUST ne

previously deep

COTTAGE, occ

stated, a good Barn, W

TERMS made known

St. Andrews, 20th J

NOTI

ALL Persons having

against the Estate

James Allanshaw, are to

the same duly attended, s

from this date, and all i

said Estate are requested

are payment to

A. G.

St. Andrews, July 10,