

## A SEQUEL TO CAMPBELL'S HISTORY OF YARMOUTH.

THE RECTORY, DORCHESTER, N. B.,

September 6, 1888.

To the Editor of the Herald :

DEAR SIR—

Will you be good enough to give me the privilege of inserting one communication from me on the above subject?

First, let me thank you for the courteous tone of your leading article in the issue of the 5th, which reached me to-day. If, as that carefully written article suggests, the author of the SEQUEL has seen fit to colour his work with something personal, I will only say that I am neither surprised nor frightened. From that gentleman I have nothing to hope and nothing to fear; the final arbiter of all moot points that I respect is public opinion. That opinion will decide all that needs decision :

1st. It will decide whether I have made wrong statements. I never did claim infallibility. I shall not be surprised to be proved to be wrong; and both the public and I will be debtors to the author of the SEQUEL for all proved corrections of error.

2nd. If it be alleged that I have omitted important statements of fact that should have been made, PUBLIC OPINION will also decide that question. I admit that I often felt that I would like to have said many things that can *now* be said, but which, from circumstances, could not well be spoken when I wrote. I omitted all that I thought would only hurt or wound, and it is a daily pleasure to me to know that I set down nothing in malice. I learnt whilst writing that there is real self-denial in putting the pen through some pungent sentence or expression which might have been thought specially good or pointed, but which, after all, contained a sting.

3rd. If it be alleged that I am deficient in detail, once more the ripened opinion of the public will be a perfectly satisfactory court of final appeal. Since I wrote, times have altered; many prominent men have been removed. Much may now be well and profitably spoken that I felt could not then be said. Living men, of whom I felt I should like to have spoken at length laudatorily, were not, in my opinion, material for the historian. Unhappily, the long list\* of Clements, Killam, Lovitt, Moody, and, let me specially add, G. J. Farish, all of whom, with very many more departed, go to prove that the historian of to-day has abounding material. I am not concerned to defend myself against any charge of want of detail. Principal Cameron, in his Halifax letters, has very well illustrated how lively simple facts may be amplified, and invested with interest. To what extent it may be done is merely a matter of taste.

If I have made any wrong statement, no one will be better pleased than I to have it corrected; if I have omitted or suppressed any statement which I should have made, I am prepared to be censured; or, if

\* It is the misfortune of Yarmouth and of myself to have to add to this list the name of that most excellent citizen—James C. Farish, M.D., who died on the morning of Good Friday, 1889.