

to the criticism on himself, he adds "But the freedom of the press is essential to the purity of the administration of justice and therefore undeserved censure is not unacceptable to me. Wrong I may be but it would be much more gratifying to me to see by the writings of the authors of the various strictures on my conduct, that the writers really understood what I did say." He then adds that the newspapers had absurdly misrepresented what he had said.

A very pleasing insight into his disposition is to be found in a letter to his grandson, dated April 18th, 1864—who had written in an angry spirit to him in regard to an office which had been promised but not obtained. He says: "You are, or will be disappointed in not obtaining an office. I was turned out of my office at an advanced age by Mr. Howe, Mr. Johnston and Mr. Young. It never entered into my mind or heart to cherish revenge on them therefor. Never in the whole course of my life did I wittingly do anything to revenge myself on any man. Vengeance is mine saith the Lord, and I will repay. I earnestly adjure you to forcibly wrench from your mind all vindictive feeling. But the violent animosity to which you give utterance ought to be subdued. Depend on it you will be happier, and in the end more prosperous than by indulging in so corroding a passion as revenge. If the religion of Christ be the truth, and you believe it to be the truth, if you do not abandon that purpose you must in future omit that part of the prayer he taught his disciples, viz, 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us', or make a special exception as regards *** But my maxim was and be it yours—

'Here's a hand for those who love me
And a smile for those who hate,
And whatever sky's above me
Here's a heart for every fate.'

Get your profession, attend carefully to your business, gather gear, and everything else will follow in due time."