

had been so long and so honorably distinguished, are but imperfectly understood by many of the people of Canada, and as they are such as reflect the highest honour upon his character as a statesman of liberal and enlarged views, it is but justice that they should be more fully explained here.

When Acting Governor-General he had in Council passed a law granting full and unrestricted liberty to the press throughout India ; this measure, which he considered imperatively called for, in consequence of the many restrictive, irreconcilable, and inconsistent rules and enactments which existed in various parts of the country, was not approved of by either the Imperial Government or the Court of Directors, and although its justice and wisdom have since been abundantly proved, yet Sir CHAS. METCALFE was in 1837 made aware that it was considered a bar to his farther promotion.

Although perfectly satisfied with the important office which he then held, he did not think it consistent with the duty and self-respect which was due to himself to remain in the public service with the impression alluded to ; he therefore requested of the Court of Directors to intimate to him whether he had been correctly informed as to their feelings and views towards him.

The answer of the Court of Directors, although extremely courteous, neither admitted nor denied the correctness of the information which had been previously received, and being consequently unsatisfactory, Sir CHAS. METCALFE resigned office, and retired from the service of the Company, as before stated.

It is customary on the part of the Imperial Government and the East India Company to name, as Provisional Governor-General, one of their most approved Public Servants, who, in case of sickness, death, or any other casualty, preventing the Governor-General's acting, is duly authorised to assume the functions and exercise the authority which belongs to that high station ; and it redounds highly to the honor both of Sir Charles Metcalfe and the Court of Directors that on three several occasions he was

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