

From the Morning Courier.

### DEATH OF SIR CHARLES BAGOT.

THE death of Sir Charles Bagot, which we announced yesterday, will put an end to the storm which has been raised over that lamented gentleman's policy. Every one acknowledges the kindness of heart, and many other excellent qualities which distinguished the late Governor General.—Regret will follow him to the grave—for he was in the strictest sense of the word a true English gentleman. With him death has disarmed no enmities; for in truth there were none to disarm. Of his acts as a politician it would be unfeeling as it is unnecessary to speak. What he did we firmly believe he did for the best, and the consciousness which the public feel that this was the case will preserve his memory from reproach.

The *Kingston Chronicle* gives the following particulars connected with Sir Charles Bagot's history, and last illness:—

During his seven months' illness, Sir Charles Bagot bore his sufferings with a degree of fortitude and suavity of temper that endeared him to all who approached him. The patient exhibited powers of vitality and resistance to disease surprising to his medical attendants, and far beyond the average force of such powers in the human species. He might have even triumphed over the last paroxysm of his disorder, but for the debility of his frame, attenuated by long and exhausting sickness and confinement. The approach of death was most gradual, and he finally yielded up his last breath without effort, tranquilly. It is not for us to lift the veil on domestic grief. All can understand what must be the feelings of the bereaved one, at the moment of that separation which the grave makes, from one with whom there has been enduring conjugal harmony for more than half a life. Lady Bagot has been an assiduous, unremitting, anxious watcher by the sick couch of her partner throughout his long term of suffering. The natural strength of her mind, sustained by a high sense of duty, and the special kindness of Providence, can alone have enabled her to come through a trial so severe both to the body and the mind.

It is, we hear, the intention of the family that the remains of the deceased be taken to England for interment in the family vault.

Sir Charles Bagot, as all persons in this country know, was connected by marriage with the eldest daughter of Lord Maryborough, with the great Wellington family—the most illustrious of modern days.

Sir Charles was Member of Commons and Under Secretary of State for Foreign affairs in 1807. At the continental peace of 1814, he was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary at Paris, and remained in that capital during the eventful Hundred Days of the ill-fated Napoleon after he had invaded and over-run the mighty Kingdom of France from the insignificant island of Elba in the Mediterranean. Sir Charles Bagot was afterwards, in 1820, Ambassador to the Court of Russia; and at the Hague in 1824; and in the same capacity at Washington. Of the manner in which he executed the various duties of the many offices he filled in the interest of the British crown, the best proof we have of the opinion of the British Government is to be found in the appointment of Sir Charles to the important post which fell vacant by the sudden death of Lord Sydenham. We have reason to believe that no one in the British dominions was more opposed to the appointment than was the lamented Sir Charles Bagot himself. It was pressed upon him by the British Ministry in a manner that would have rendered his continued refusal selfish, and wanting in a proper sense of public duty. To that sense of public duty Sir Charles finally yielded: and at the post of duty, upon the altar of his country, he has nobly sacrificed his life.

We cannot conclude this article without advertising to the considerate and delicate conduct of His Excellency Sir Charles Metcalfe towards the whole of Sir Charles Bagot's family, from the time of His Excellency's arrival in Kingston to the final catastrophe. The columns of a newspaper are not the fitting chronicle for the detail of such matters; but, if we are rightly informed, no member of that family will ever cease to feel towards Sir Charles Metcalfe otherwise than as to a Father or a Brother.

From the Transcript.

On the morning of the 24th inst., the remains of the Right Honorable Sir Charles Bagot were removed from the Government House, Kingston, on board H.M.S. *Traveller*, to be conveyed to Oswego, thence along the line of Canal to New York, where lies H.M.S. *Warspite*, in readiness to convey them to England, to be interred in the Vault of the Bagot Family.

The Mayor had issued an order that all the shops should be shut on the occasion.

We learn from the *Kingston Chronicle* of the 24th inst., that the embarkation of Lady Bagot and her daughters was postponed until next day, on account of high winds. We sincerely join in the wish of the *Chronicle* that "prosperous gales may waft the mourners to their home beyond the mountain wave, and that all happiness possible, under the circumstances of their bereavement, may await their arrival, and attend their future career!" The remains of Sir Charles Bagot will be conveyed in a Barge specially sent across the lake from Oswego, which will be taken in tow by Her Majesty's Steamboat *Traveller*, in which the Family will embark for the opposite shore. The body will be taken by Canal to New York, where the *Warspite*, commanded by Lord John Hay, is in waiting. It was the filial wish of the deceased that his remains should be placed in the same vault with those of his mother.

The whole ceremony of the removal from Alvington House will be conducted with privacy. A wish had been expressed to mark the melancholy occasion with some public demonstration on the part of the citizens of Kingston; but this was waived upon consultation with the family.

### SIR CHARLES METCALFE.

A LATE number of the *Quebec Gazette* contains a report of a speech made by Mr. John Neilson, at the meeting held in Quebec, to prepare an address of congratulation to His Excellency Sir Charles Metcalfe. The remarks are sensible and manly; but the part which will be read with the most interest is, that which introduces the admirable reply of Sir Charles Metcalfe to the people of Jamaica:—

If there was any occasion on which an address should not be dispensed with, it was the present. Sir Charles Metcalfe came to the Province accompanied by his reputation acquired in other parts of Her Majesty's dominions, and particularly in Jamaica, where he had succeeded in restoring peace to a Colony where dissensions had long prevailed in the Legislature, to a degree that the Island was on the point of losing its free representative constitution, where the inhabitants consisted of a great intermixture of people, and particularly of two classes marked by nature as distinct, only a short time before consisting of masters and slaves. It is not a year since Sir Charles Metcalfe left Jamaica, honoured with the approbation and affection of the whole population.

It was only yesterday that a gentleman of this city connected with Jamaica, had favoured Mr. Neilson with a volume containing the addresses of the Island to the Governor on his departure. These were addresses from the parishes of every county and town in the Island, from the Clergy of the Church of England, the Agents of the London Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Methodist, Native Wesleyan Methodist, Baptists, German Jews, Portuguese Jews, Physicians, Society of Arts, St. George, and St. Andrew's Agricultural Societies, Roman Catholic Clergy and Congregations, African Benevolent Society, &c. &c. All these addresses are expressed in the highest terms of approbation and affection, and the answers are replete with the kindest, the most philanthropic and Christian feelings.

We would take the liberty of reading part of His Excellency's answer to one of these addresses, as giving, from his own lips, some circumstances relating to his personal history and his appointment to the Government of Jamaica, which give an idea of the Governor's character, which, it is hoped, may produce results as favourable in this Province as in Jamaica:

"I must ever regard, as the happiest event of my life, that I came to Jamaica. One minute before I accepted the totally unexpected offer of the government of this Island and its dependencies, if the idea of my going to the West Indies had suggested itself to any of my friends, I should have laughed at it as something so utterly improbable, as to be next to an impossibility. The offer reached me, when I was living in retirement, with no other plan before me but that of making my retirement more complete—I had no desire for official employment of any kind.

I had no pretensions to any claim on the ministry—I had no connection with any party in the state; I had no local influence that could place me in Parliament, the only sphere of public duty for which I had any inclination. No individual could have been found more totally unconnected with public men and public life than I was at that time—none more studiously retired from general society and intercourse with the gay of busy world. I had returned from India scarcely a year before, after thirty-eight years uninterrupted absence from home in the service of my country, with the intention and hope of passing the remainder of my days in England. Excepting as to my own family and friends, and near neighbours in the country, I was, in fact, a recluse. It is due to Her Majesty's Ministers of that time, and especially to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, one of your former Governors, the Marquis of Normanby, who made the offer to me, and whom I had never seen, to remark, that whether their selection was good or bad, their sole motive must have been the advancement of the public service.

"When I received this offer, a moment's consideration satisfied me that my duty to my country required that I should accept it. Had Jamaica been in a perfectly satisfactory and happy state, I should have declined the honor, having, as I said, no wish for official employment; but under the circumstances which then existed, there was something of importance to be done, and I considered myself by the offer made, as called on to it. I did not therefore hesitate. I undertook the trust, encouraged by the hope of success, human nature being the same in all parts of the world.—I thought that you were wrong, but I also thought it probable that you might be induced to put yourselves right, and that the Mother Country and the Colony might be reconciled. I conceived that coming among you as a stranger, who had never been engaged in any strife regarding the Colonies, I should derive facilities from that circumstance. After my arrival, I was at first rather appalled by the violence of party spirit which seemed to prevail.—But the first proceedings of the House of Assembly assured me that all in time would be well. My task since, has been an easy one. The good sense of the Colony has done all."

### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Fox gave notice that on the 11th of May he should call attention to the system of repeal agitation carried on in Ireland, and submit a motion requiring Government to take effectual steps for its suppression.

Lord Elliot brought in a bill to continue and render more effective the act regulating the importation and sale of arms and gunpowder in Ireland. Notwithstanding some opposition from Irish members, the bill was read, and ordered to have its second reading on the 1st of May.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—We learn from the Army and Navy Chronicle, that advices have been received from the Sandwich Islands as late as the 8th of March. On the 25th of February, in consequence of demands made by the British officers which the King could not or would not comply with, the Islands were conditionally ceded to Queen Victoria. Possession was taken of them the same day by Lord George Paulet, commanding H. B. M. ship *Carysfort*, and the British flag hoisted under salutes from the fort and ships.

Nearly 200 tons of sugar manufactured at the Sandwich Islands arrived at New York last week, and the quality is said to be very fair; also a quantity of molasses, nut oil, and other products of the industry of the people of these Islands. The history of the reformation in these Islands is among the most remarkable triumphs of Christianity.

### NINETEEN DAYS LATER FROM CANTON.

The ship *Ann M'Kim* arrived from Canton at New York, on the evening of the 22d inst., in the very short passage of 95 days. Advices have been received up to the 15th Feb.

Thus far Sir Henry Pottinger has been unsuccessful in his attempts to negotiate a commercial treaty, and had returned to Macao from Hong Kong on the 4th Feb.

Business is said to be excessively dull. No sales of imports could be made, and about 450 chops of teas remained unsold. There seems no likelihood of any change in duties taking place this season.

The pirates were exceedingly active and daring on the river, and Sir Henry Pottinger had proposed to co-operate with the Chinese authorities in suppressing their enormities.