

guage of the Idolized Bard of the "land of the heather and bell."

"Wha sae base as be a slave
Let him turn and flee."

ROBERT BURNS.

But, even here, I have met a prejudice equal to any thing I ever experienced in the south. Thanks to the laws, it may go no further than verbal illustration! But the greatest prejudice of all is that against myself personally, held by people of my own colour, concerning that which they never had a chance of knowing the truth of, but which I have explained in the following pages to the satisfaction, I hope, of all enlightend and conscientious men.

It was to clear up my character, and do justice to humanity, that I was at first prompted to publish this pamphlet—for I was well aware that

"Slander lives upon succession,
For ever housed where it once gets possession."
SHAKESPEARE'S *Comedy of Errors*.

And armed in the adamantine armour of conscious innocence and truth, I hope to repel the thrusts of

"Slander
Whose edge is sharper than the sword,
Whose tongue outvenoms all the worms of Nile."
CYMBELINE.

But it has been the lot of great men to be slandered. Clarkson and Wilberforce, who ranked high among the truly great and good of the world, in their day, were slandered; but time and the good sense of mankind are doing these illustrious philanthropists justice; and so they will George Thompson, who was so recently assailed by the tongue of slander in our city, whilst ably and disinterestedly engaged in protesting against the wrongs inflicted upon my oppressed and injured African