

be admitted to be either just or legal. Was I not, then, personally and directly responsible to Mr. Daly? Were not the Courts of Law, civil and criminal, open to him, if he thought himself privately or publicly aggrieved? But it is no wonder, considering all things, that I was condemned as I have been. The illegal course of the proceedings had against me—the extraordinary manner in which the investigation was conducted throughout—and the iniquitous and contradictory tenour of the evidence brought against me, but afterwards so irrefragably refuted, can no longer be a subject of wonderment to any one. But “to every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under Heaven: a time to kill, and a time to heal: a time to break down, and a time to build up.”

You then proceed to inform me, “that it is not the practice to furnish copies of official documents to private individuals, as that would withdraw from the public service too much of the time of those employed in Government offices.” The refusal to comply with my humble request, and the reasons assigned for doing so, are equally novel and unsatisfactory to me. What! try and condemn an individual without affording him the poor gratification of becoming acquainted with the charges brought against him! In what country do we live? One would suppose that, instead of being the rightful inheritors of British freedom and justice, we had of a sudden become the unhappy subjects of some Orient despotism, where the will of the chief is the law of the vassal. And is it come to this? God help those who become obnoxious to a power that is without control or responsibility; and may THE FRIEND of the friendless shield and protect the just rights of those who may have the misfortune to be dealt withal as I have been, during the whole of this extraordinary business, from beginning to end.

You refuse a copy of the “official” complaint made against me, and which was made the foundation of the procedure adopted to ruin me. You do well! Yet, strange to tell, you assign as a reason, that although private individuals are amenable to “official” complaints, their rights immediately afterwards cease, and they are no longer entitled either to an impartial trial or to the common courtesies of official persons, as that would withdraw too much of their attention from the public service. So to be just, equitable, and obliging, appear to you to form no part of the public service! Why? Because the unhappy individual who begs for justice and equity, is a “private individual.” This is strange reasoning, but still more extraordinary conduct, proceeding as it does from the powers appointed to administer the Civil Government of the Province, and who are enjoined to “consult with equal kindness the claims and wishes of every class of His Majesty’s Canadian subjects.”* But who made me a “private individual?” and by what means have I become so unfortunate as to have fallen from the high estate

* See Lord Gosford’s Instructions.