

mentioned to withdraw. As I did so, I could not refrain from adverting to the altered position in my circumstances, occasioned by my rupture with the "Times," and the additional force with which this would press upon me by reason of his Lordship's departure from the country. I added that I trusted I would be pardoned for expressing a hope that he would bear me in mind on his arrival in England.

Delicately as this hint was conveyed, (and it seemed to me to be a duty which I owed to myself and mine to say something on that subject which would lead to a final and determined pledge,) I could perceive that Lord Durham was slightly nettled, for he answered rather impatiently, "Depend upon it, as I have already said, everything that I can do for you shall be done; but I do not like to be reminded of my promises: I AM LIKE MR. CANNING,—I NEVER FORGET MY FRIENDS."

I confess I was somewhat hurt. I remarked to his Lordship that I was fully convinced this was the case, and that had he continued in the country I would not have alluded to the subject; but as he was about to return to England, where in the multiplicity of other demands upon his attention, the recollection of his trans-Atlantic friends might escape him, I had thought it advisable to allude incidentally to the pecuniary embarrassments which my support of his government would entail upon me.

Again His Lordship warmly expressed his sense of what I had done for him, admitted the undeniable claims I had upon his consideration and good offices, and avowed his intention to lose no opportunity, wherever he might be, of advancing my interests, repeating that, "like Mr. Canning, he never forgot his friends." A few remarks in relation to his approaching departure changed the subject of conversation, and I soon afterwards took my leave, His Lordship conducting me to the door, and once more cordially shaking me by the hand as he bade me what I little then deemed would prove to be an eternal farewell.

The embarkation took place that afternoon. The several Societies of St. George, St. Andrew, and St. Patrick, had turned out on the occasion, and, with the battalions of Guards then in Quebec, gave something of liveliness to a departure which was in itself a source of solemn and painful recollection. I was in no mood of mind to join in the apparently gay procession, but stood aloof, waiting for the appearance of the Earl, whose carriage was drawn up near the grand entrance hall ready to receive him. At length he came, followed by the Countess, the amiable and unaffected Ladies Lambton, and the remainder of his family and immediate suite. As His Lordship's carriage extended to the quay, who lined the streets leading to the Lower Town, loud acclamations burst from the throats of people who doubled that line on the outside of the troops, which the Earl acknowledged by taking off his hat and bowing repeatedly from the open windows. But how differently, it occurred to me, must those cheers have vibrated on his heart, to those which, scarcely six months previously, had, in the very same streets, greeted his passage. Then he was arriving in the country, charged with a mission that gave him almost princely authority in it, and in the just pride of anticipation of the fullest success. The cheers that then pealed forth seemed to be of right his own, and he received them as evidence of the homage of a people whose destinies were in his hands, and whose weal and tranquillity he was about permanently to establish. Now he was departing with the objects of that mission unaccomplished, his hands fettered, his energies paralyzed, his authority mocked, and the almost regal attributes of his high office shorn of their lustre! True, the same cheers accompanied his departure that had hailed his arrival, but they were no longer proffered or received as a right. They were tendered as the effusions of a generous sympathy—evidences of a commiseration for one who, instead of standing high in the favour of his Government, had (however undeservedly and unjustly) incurred its censure, and whose mode of administering the affairs of a country which he came, armed with unprecedented powers, and in the full and flattering confidence of his Sovereign, to govern, had been such as to lead to his resignation of the important trust.

The contrast of these positions could not fail to occur, in all their force, to a mind so sensitive as that of Lord Durham, and to impress him, at his departure, with feelings of deep pain and disappointment. Such at least were the reflections which the more than usual paleness and seriousness of manner I fancied I had detected on his Lordship's countenance, as he issued from the court, led me to ascribe to him; nor was the chain of thought into which I had unconsciously fallen interrupted until some time after the procession had disappeared in its descent to the Lower Town, where a salute of artillery from Cape Diamond, in announcing the embarkation of His Lordship, caused me to wend my steps to that part of the rampart which immediately overlooked the Queen's Wharf. When I reached this point, the boats of the frigate (that containing His Excellency being distinguished by a Union Jack) were nearly alongside. The ladder ropes, at which stood two officers in full uniform, were extended as His Lordship drew near, and then, amid the thunder of the guns of the Inconstant, whose smoke soon enveloped the whole party, embarked the first Governor-General of British North America, to all out-

ward seeming gratified with the pomp and circumstance which surrounded him, but inwardly nursing that corroding gangrene which terminated in his premature death,—the bitter consciousness that he was returning to England, not in triumph as he had expected, but as he had so feelingly expressed himself in his letter to me, A DEGRADED AND DISAVOWED GOVERNOR.

And here I cannot, even at the risk of being charged with prolixity and repetition, avoid again referring to the unjust and infamous manner in which this distinguished Nobleman, the founder of a system which has, through the wise interpretations of its provisions by a statesman not less eminent in diplomacy than himself, at length restored harmony and quiet to Canada.

Of all the sinister strokes of policy which had marked the conduct of the Opposition in England, bent upon the condemnation of every measure, right or wrong, which should emanate from the envied possessors of office, none could be more contemptible than that which aimed at the destruction of Lord Durham's power in Canada. Not ten men, I will venture to affirm, were to have been found among those factious Lords, who, if conscientiously answering the question, would have ventured to deny that the conduct pursued by the noble Earl in this country was precisely that which would have been adopted by themselves, had they possessed the power they were so anxious to overthrow in others. True, the Bill which was adopted, in direct censure on Lord Durham's conduct, had its origin, not with the Tory party, but with Lord Brougham, a character somewhere happily described as an "unprincipled political gladiator." They (the Tories) would never have detected the illegality—a mere quibble—of the act of banishment; and as a proof of this, not one word was uttered on the subject, until Lord Brougham, with the sly malignity of a Melistopheles, came forward backed by musty statutes of William and Edward—statutes passed in the days of barbarism—to show that Lord Durham had exceeded his powers, and violated the rights of men whose acts of rebellion had deprived them of all right. And why did Lord Brougham state this? Was it because he really sympathized with the parties whom he declared to have serious cause for complaint on the subject? Not at all. He was anxious only for a display of the two dominant passions of his nature,—his unamiable love of sarcasm, and his proud assumption of superior legal knowledge. No matter, however, what the cause may have been, the horn was sounded, and up rose a host of opposition Peers, who had never previously dreamt of this flaw in Lord Durham's act, and these, halloping and cheering, determined, at all hazards, to run the noble animal down. Had they any personal animosity against Lord Durham? Had they even a well-founded objection to his mode of administering of the affairs of the colony? None in the world. But they were hostile to the then Ministry, and provided they could weaken the influence of that Ministry, they cared not whom or what was sacrificed to their clamor.

Then, again, what was the conduct of the Ministry itself? The first instance of their neglect of support arose from certain appointments made by Lord Durham, soon after his arrival in Canada—appointments the most professedly obnoxious of which, I have no hesitation in affirming, on the authority of that nobleman, had been recommended by Ministers themselves. When the question relative to Mr. Turton's appointment was put to Lord Melbourne, by the Earl of Winchelsea, His Lordship expressed the most decided conviction that such appointment would not take place? What necessity was there for Lord Melbourne to reply to the question? or, if replying at all, why not have prudently disavowed all interference with appointments which had been left to the discretion of the Governor-General of British North America? And later, when positive information had been received of the appointment of Mr. Turton to a situation of responsibility under the Government, Lord Melbourne thought proper, with a view to the preservation of his own character for consistency, to express regret that such appointment had taken place! If this be not political treason and tergiversation, what is? Was such a declaration made as earnest of a desire to support Lord Durham? But let the public judge, from the following, whether the surprise and regret expressed by the First Lord of the Treasury was real or affected:—

"Mr. Turton (said the "Globe," Lord Melbourne's paper), who accompanies His Lordship (Lord Durham) in the Hastings as legal adviser, is the son of Sir Thomas Turton, Bart., and lately arrived from Calcutta, where he was a practising barrister in the Supreme Court."

It might have been presumed that Lord Melbourne, profiting by the experience of the past, would have felt the necessity for a little more caution and reserve on the subject of Canadian appointments. How was this manifested? When a report reached England that the well-known Edward Gibbon Wakefield, who has since rendered himself even more notorious by pocketing some fifteen thousands obtained through his jobbings on the Beauharnois Canal, had been appointed to some situation of trust, the Earl of Winchelsea put the same question to Lord Melbourne that he had propounded in respect to Mr. Turton. Again the First Lord, with the most Lamb-like naïveté, replied that "he did not believe that such an appointment had taken place." Well indeed might Lord Durham exclaim "Heaven save me from such friends?"

Nor were those the only instances in which a want of proper