

efficiency to promote the general good ; of which every member of the Legislature will be the independent watchmen and the unbribed judge. It is thus that responsible government will have a fair field of successful experiment in a British colony ; that the prerogative of the Crown will be unfriuged by stipulating demand or factious combination, whilst its exercise will be constitutionally checked and efficiently influenced on every side ; that the precipices and gulfs to the brink of which party rashness and party cupidity have brought the country, will be escaped, and the current affairs will be restored to a safe and constitutional channel ; that an open career will be afforded to every public man, to recover from any errors of the past, into which he may have fallen ; and advance according to his merits in the legitimate judgement of his fellow subjects ; that the institution and system of education, from the provincial university down to the elementary schools, will be extended to all classes without distinction and upon equal terms ; that the foundation will be laid—as far as it can be laid by human efforts—on which to erect the structure of public prosperity and happiness, to remove the withering curse of political party associations secret and open, and, by healing the wounds which divisions and collisions have inflicted upon the country, to restore its health, revive its energies, husband its resources of intellect and wealth, and elevate its character.

I believe there is a plain path of duty before the members of the legislature and the people at large ; and I submit to every candid man in Western Canada, whether the remedy which I have taken the liberty to propose, and the line of duty I have attempted to mark out, is not preferable to the Toronto Association remedy and warfare of hostilities against the imperial and local governments and party collisions and proscriptions, amongst their fellow subjects throughout the length and breadth of the land ?

I have written these papers, and I propose the question just stated, with all its unmeasurable weight of magnitude and importance, as a man who has no temporal interest whatever except in common with that of his native country—the field of his life's labours—the seat of his best affections—the home of his earthly hopes ;—up to the present hour I have never received one farthing of its revenue. I know something of the kinds and extent of the sacrifices which are involved in my thus coming before the public. If others have resigned office, I have declined it, and under circumstances very far less propitious than those under which the late Councillors stepped out. But duty in regard to fundamental principles, has nothing to do with the calculations as to personal profit or loss. I have no interest in the appointment of any one man or set of men to office, or in the exclusion of any other man or set of men from office. I know

of but one chief end of civil government, the public good ; and I have one rule of judging the acts and sentiments of all public men—their tendency to promote the public good.—And my reply to the advocate of King's College Council, on the University question, evinces my readiness to oppose Mr. Draper as well as Mr. Baldwin, when anything said or done by him is, in my judgement, after diligent research and serious reflection, dangerous to the public welfare, or inconsistent with the constitutional rights of any branch of the government, or portion of the community.

I am as independent of Messrs. Viger, Draper and Daley, as I am of Messrs. Baldwin, Sullivan and Hincks ; and I would apply the same rule of judgment to the sentiments and acts of the former, as to those of the latter.—Nay, I might appeal to more than one instance in which the authority and patronage of Governors did not prevent me from defending the constitutional rights of my fellow-subjects and native country ; nor would it on this occasion, had I become convinced that the Governor was the invader instead of the defender of constitutional rights. The independent and impartial judgment which I myself endeavour to exercise, I desire to see exercised by every man in Canada. I believe it comports best with constitutional safety, with civil liberty, with public duty, with national greatness.

With the *politics of party*—involving the confederacy, the enslavement, the selfishness, the exclusion, the trickery, the antipathies, the crimonations of party—no good man ought to be identified. I believe he cannot be so long and be a man of God. Thus to article and resign himself, will soon eat up the spirit, if not sap the principles of his holy Christianity. Upper Canada contains the warning monuments of many such moral shipwrecks. May they not be multiplied. With the *politics of Government*—involving its objects, its principles, its balanced powers its operations—even against the encroachments of any party—every British subject has much to do. Civil Government, as St. Paul says, “is an ordinance of God.”

Every Christian—every Christian minister—has something to do with every ordinance of God.” He is not to see it abused, or trampled under foot, or perverted for party or sectional purposes ; but he is to seek its application, to the beneficent ends for which it was designed by our common Creator and Governor. Such have been the ends for which the people of Canada have long sought its application, such have been the ends sought by the Governor General. By all therefore, that is sacred and important in these ends, I believe “It is the duty and interest of the People of Canada to maintain those views which they have always professed, and which Sir Charles Metcalfe has most explicitly and fully avowed.”