

he is, from some unexplained cause, incapable of the practice of Responsible Government. This they cannot conceive to arise wholly from mere inability, and they are therefore left to conclude, that if not in his mind, at least in the minds of those who constitute his pressure from without, there is an *ulterior* object, which takes precedence of the principle of Responsibility to the people under *Monarchical institutions*. The loyal Reformers, in forming this opinion, do not judge merely from the evident wish of Mr. Baldwin and his extreme supporters, to perpetuate in the continued existence of the Family or High Church Compact, a corruption of which they, as a party, may continue to be, as they have always been, the maggots or evidences to the Canadian public, and with which by keeping up an endless and most offensive irritation, they may disgust the British public to an extent which will result in the Republican's heart's wish, viz: the discarding of Canada by England altogether! They appeal to the incontrovertible fact, that, for many months Mr. Baldwin has been the irresponsible minister of Sir Charles Metcalfe's WILL! while he has all the while had the duplicity to pretend to the public that he continued to be the responsible minister of the *wishes of an enfranchised people*.

By doing as he has done, Mr. Baldwin *has been a traitor* to what he agrees with us to be *true and unequivocal* responsibility to the colonists. He has done all that he could to overthrow our constitutional rights and privileges, which, the operation of Responsible Government, if not a delusion, ought to be the acknowledged legitimate means of securing not only to ourselves, but of handing down unimpaired to our posterity, as their most valuable and valued birthright,—the chartered embodiment, in fact, of all our rights and liberties as colonists.

I think it no more than fair to admit that *Sir Charles Metcalfe erred in not publicly dismissing Mr. Baldwin, when His Excellency was prepared no longer to consult him on every matter*. This assuredly (as the constitutional course,) would naturally have been the course, which a Statesman of the tried and universally acknowledged talent and liberality of the present Governor-General, would have adopted, under the circumstances, had his Excellency taken the proper view of it. His Excellency's recent arrival amongst us ought, however, to be considered; and before rashly condemning the Governor-General in this particular instance, the fact will be borne in mind, that His Excellency must have felt that, as a constitutional Governor, he must depend for his ability to change his advisers, on the support of public opinion, which at the time he found sunk in exhaustion, from the effects of a long course of wretched political excitement in the province. Public opinion had, in fact under Sir Charles Bagot, given no indication but that it was the play thing of faction! Sir Charles Metcalfe found that he could only triumph by letting the *BRITISH LION* or *PUBLIC OPINION* get gradually awake to the *weak* hands that held him. And even if we allow that there is yet something to be said *against* Sir Charles's course in *other* and less extraordinary circumstances of the province, there is much in its present circumstances to say in defence of his wisdom.

If it were necessary farther to defend Sir Charles Metcalfe, we might just remark how good his Excellency's right was to suppose that, Mr. Baldwin should know so much better than his Excellency, a stranger, had the means of knowing, what the people he represented in the council of the colony expected of him, viz: that he should retire the moment the Governor-General showed a want of confidence in him personally, by