

or to have been the result of a tender of his services. Be that as it may, on the tenth or eleventh of December, Mr. Coffin, then a clerk in Mr. Ogden's office, in great apparent dejection and perplexity, applied to me to take him on the then projected expedition to St. Eustache. I was then attached to the staff of General Gore, whose displeasure I incurred by acquiescing in Mr. Coffin's request. I necessarily rode out, but I permitted Mr. Coffin to sit in the sleigh which I was allowed; and on the memorable night of the thirteenth, I gave him a share of my camp supper and bed. From previous exposure on the expedition to St. Charles, I was so racked with rheumatism and stiff in every joint that, on the next morning, I required the help of four men of the 32nd to assist me to mount my horse. Mr. Coffin drove comfortably in my sleigh. I am not about to give a history of the campaign, still less to refer to the part which I took in it; but I must briefly say, that while leading the Royal Regiment into the Church, by an accessible point which I had previously detected, I was badly wounded. I pause here to state a fact which made some impression on me at the time, and which is now fraught with importance. Mr. Coffin says that he was "attached to the office of the Attorney General." That is not a military office. Then at the request of Colonel Maitland, he accompanied him as interpreter. As such he was a mere non-combatant; and besides, it was not Colonel Maitland but me whom he accompanied to St. Eustache. Those who see the drift of Mr. Coffin's pamphlet, and the end to be attained by the production of Mr. Griffin's, (he was neither Captain nor Military Secretary then,) and other certificates, will comprehend that Mr. Coffin plumes himself upon his humanity. I contradict nobody; but I state what I saw myself. Mr. Coffin carried a rifle, for which when I consented to take him I was not prepared, and though I never saw him near the Church, at which point only resistance was made, Mr. Coffin will permit me to remind him that he came equipped purposely to shoot the habitants like sparrows. Will he say that he did not fire on them? A man of capacity and attainments, he knew perfectly well that desultory, individual, undisciplined efforts of that kind could