

it could be useful to him, that his earnest conviction, before the outbreak, that violence would be attempted, *and the measures of precaution which he spontaneously took in consequence of that impression, were the means of saving the Government and the loyal inhabitants of Toronto from being, for a time at least, at the mercy of the rebels*, and I believe that the most disastrous consequences would have followed the surprise which Colonel Fitz Gibbon's vigilance prevented. His conduct also when the crisis did occur was most meritorious. *The Provincial Legislature has shown a strong sense of his service, and a great desire to reward it; and I am persuaded that no one would receive more pleasure than the present Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, and his predecessor, from any measure of Her Majesty's Government which should have the effect of recompensing Colonel Fitz Gibbon in such manner as may be most agreeable and useful to himself.*"

Extract of a Letter from CHIEF JUSTICE ROBINSON
to COLONEL FITZ GIBBON,

Dated Toronto, 5th June, 1843.

"I have great pleasure in learning Sir Charles Metcalfe's most considerate and generous conduct towards you. It does him infinite honor. He did you the justice to believe what I have no doubt he had heard, and what beyond question is true, that by the vigilance you exerted, and the steps you took, on the 4th of December, 1837, and a short time before, unprompted by any one, and moved only by your own ardent zeal for the public good, you prevented calamities, public and private, which it is fearful even now to think of.

"To that conviction I have always adhered, and been always ready to bear testimony."