

A sense of gratitude on my own part, and a still higher sentiment of duty towards the people of England and America, thus encourage me to make known to both, the noble and enlightened views with which Your Royal Highness desires to promote whatever can strengthen the friendly relations between their respective countries.

I cannot, therefore, commit my humble labours to the press, under more appropriate or more distinguished auspices than those of Your Royal Highness, to whom I cheerfully dedicate these Volumes; in the confident hope that they will awaken in other minds, the same friendly and benevolent aspirations after "peace on earth and good-will to man," which beamed so generously and spontaneously from Your own.

Your Royal Highness cannot be indifferent to international friendships, as the illustrious Consort of a Queen whose broad realm embraces such extended possessions, that the sun never ceases to shine on some portion or other of her vast dominions,—its evening rays still lingering amid the shrines and domes that stud the banks of the mighty Ganges—while its morning beams are just beginning to gild the spires and turrets scattered along the margin of the still more magnificent St. Lawrence.