

## LETTER II

THE excellent courage with which you tell me to fire away would make me quite cheerful if you had not accompanied it with such unfeigned depreciation of your personal character and acquirements, and of your efforts in the parish and pulpit. I will not flatter you by stating my honest opinion on these matters, and as I have promised to dissemble no more for some months I am obliged to drop the subject. It is your theories of creed and practice, the general atmosphere of ideas that you share with many of your class, about which I am going to play the sort of friend from whom Canning prayed to be defended. It is the excellence of the mere "you," fighting in what seems to me cumbrous armour