

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

SIR JOHN DOUGLAS SUTHERLAND CAMPBELL,

MARQUIS OF LORNE, K.T., G.C.M.G.,

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.

*May it please Your Excellency :—*

I dedicate this pamphlet to Your Lordship because, as the highest representative of Her Majesty on this Continent your name could not be more appropriately used than in connection with a vindication of the "Queen's English."

Moreover Your Lordship is a literary man, and the son of a man, not the least of whose many titles to distinction is his literary activity. You would therefore naturally feel a strong jealousy for the honour of literature.

But there is yet a stronger reason why I dedicate this pamphlet to Your Excellency. One of the earliest steps taken when starting any society is to choose a secretary. If that step in the present case was taken without consulting Your Excellency, you have certainly grave cause to complain of your literary advisers ; if it was taken with the approval of Your Lordship, you must have been deceived ; in either case it is a duty to alarm your jealousy for the honour of Canada. I can conceive no greater insult to the intelligence of Canada than for one knowing the literary imbecility of Mr. Bourinot, to appoint him Honorary-Secretary to a Society which is meant to lead the van of literary progress. I know Your Excellency would shrink from anything that the most fastidious sensibility could construe as wounding to the self-respect of this young country—a great nation, my Lord, in the dawn of vigorous manhood.

As Your Lordship is aware we have in the Dominion of