

L E T T E R

TO THE

RIGHT HON. LORD ASHBURTON, &c. &c. &c.

MY LORD,—

HER Majesty's Government having with great wisdom and humanity deputed your Lordship to come hither with the Olive Branch, to endeavour to arrange the differences now unhappily subsisting between the two countries—it is the duty of every lover of peace and concord to pray for the success of your mission, and to contribute their efforts, however feeble, to the same end.

In the course of your Lordship's negotiations with the American Government, it will doubtless be a part of your Lordship's duty to dwell upon the advantages that two great commercial People must derive from a prolonged intercourse with each other; and it has occurred to the writer of these pages, that other important branches of trade may yet be opened for the mutual benefit of the two nations, to one or two of which he asks leave to draw your Lordship's attention.

Your Lordship is perhaps aware, that within a few years, a large branch of trade has created itself by almost imperceptible degrees, on the Northern Frontier—consisting of Flour, Wheat, and other Grain, exported to the British North American Colonies; and so extensive has this trade become, that during the last year it amounted to nearly four millions of dollars in value. A writer who appears to have paid some attention to this subject, observes:—

“ We have on two or three occasions alluded to this trade—pointed out its value, its great increase, and consequent importance. We have shown that in consequence of Canada wheat and flour being admitted into the ports of Great Britain at a low rate of duty, the bulk of those articles raised in Canada were exported to England, and the deficiency made up by imports of similar articles from the United States, to supply the home consumption:—and we have also hinted that possibly some part of the imported articles may have found their