

LETTER.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HON. JAMES BRUCE,
EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE, &c.

MY LORD,

Although at a humble distance, I follow in the train of those who have been most prominent in hailing Your Lordship's advent to these fatal shores. Yes, My Lord, fatal—because, although now indulging in the early honeymoon of enjoyment of the Vice-Regal dignity, you will but too soon discover that the mantle of Nessus was not more deadly in its effects on the great cleanser of the Augean Stable, whose example Your Lordship will be called upon to imitate, than is the cloak of Responsible Government which, hitherto worn by Your Lordship's predecessors in this Colony, has at length been bequeathed to you. Some of these, it is true, have won to themselves enduring fame and honor, while others have covered themselves with contempt and scorn; but, never, with one solitary exception only—an exception scarcely meriting to be classed as such, has the subtle poison failed to insinuate its baneful influence into the system it has finally prostrated.

But, My Lord, notwithstanding this—notwithstanding the melancholy forebodings which assail me, and the unmitigated disgust with which I view the attempts, already made to fatten you with adulation; and that by those who will not scruple, later, to offer you up a sacrifice on the obscene altar of their censure,