

respect to disputed claims of right and jurisdiction I cannot entertain the idea that your Lordship will be obliged to enter upon a further or unnecessary delay in bringing them to a final determination.

*Correspondence in the years 1817-18-19, between
EARL BATHURST and J. HALKETT, Esq. on
the Subject of the Red River Settlement, &c. &c.*

MY LORD,

Seymour Place, July 10, 1817.

MY LORD,

In transmitting to your Lordship, as head of the Colonial Department, the accompanying Statement, relative to the Settlement which the Earl of Selkirk has attempted to establish on the Red River, in North America, I hope I shall not be considered guilty of any improper intrusion upon your Lordship's time and avocations, if I request that it may obtain an attentive perusal. The circumstances to which it refers have been stated by Lord Selkirk's enemies in such a manner, as to make it no more than an act of bare justice that a willing ear should be lent to what his friends in England have, in his absence, to urge in his defence. His opponents are but too well aware of the importance of concealing the truth with respect to the conspiracy entered into against the Red River Settlement, not to make it a material object for them to resort to any means for the purpose of misleading Government, and deluding the public,—and in this respect it is much to be lamented that they appear hitherto to have been not unsuccessful.