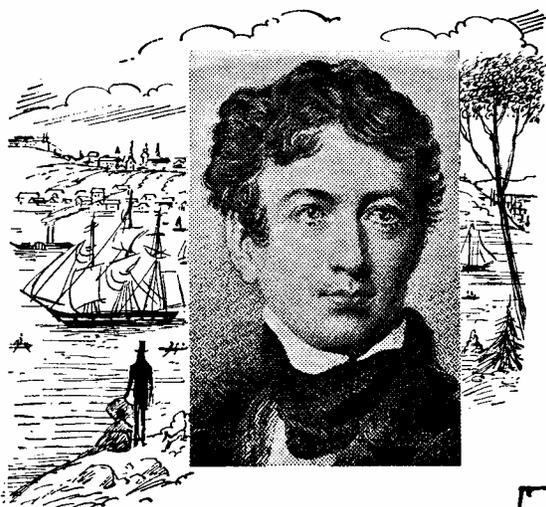


~~~~~FAMOUS LETTERS IN CANADIAN HISTORY~~~~~



## Sets Conditions

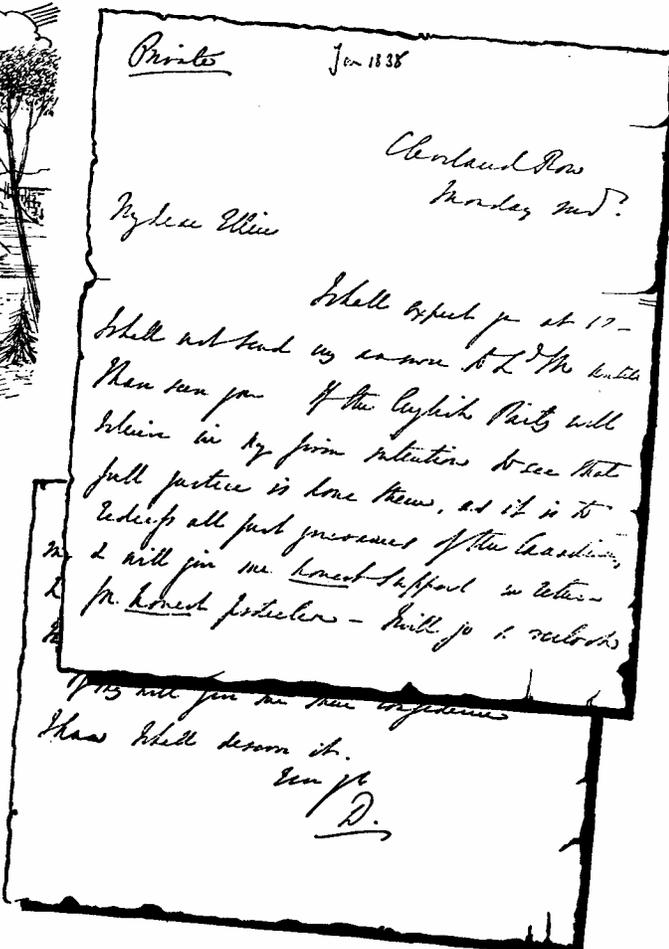
It took the personal appeal of Queen Victoria to convince Lord Durham he was needed in Canada but once here this radical English nobleman was to justify her efforts.

He landed in Canada in May, 1838, with almost dictatorial powers as governor-in-chief and high commissioner to Canada.

Seven months later he resigned these two commissions and returned to England where he died less than a year later.

But in these seven months he left an indelible imprint on Canadian history. His "Report on the Affairs of British North America," to be known as the Durham Report formed the basis of responsible government which was introduced nine years afterwards by Lord Elgin, his son-in-law.

In this letter to Edward Ellice, an English merchant and parliamentarian with ex-



tensive holdings in Canada he outlines his reservations about taking the commission to Canada. A few days later he was to say "yes" to Lord Melbourne who was the prime minister.

## Lord Durham Weighs Move to Canada

Cleveland Row, Monday morning.

My dear Ellice:

I shall expect you at 12. I shall not send my answer to Lord M until I have seen you. If the English Party will believe in my firm intention to see that full justice is done them as it is to redress all just grievances of the Canadians and will give

me honest support in return for honest protection I will go and overlook many minor inconveniences and difficulties however great but I will not go to be distrusted and thwarted by them.

If they will give me this confidence then I shall deserve it.

"D."