

**LETTER TO THE LORDS AND
COMMONS ON THE PRESENT
COMMERCIAL AND
AGRICULTURAL
CONDITION OF GREAT BRITAIN**

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Letter to the Lords and Commons on the Present Commercial and Agricultural Condition of Great Britain by Richard Badnall

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RICHARD BADNALL

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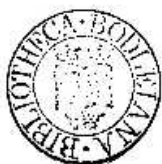
BY
RICHARD BADNALL.

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TO THE CONSIDERATION
OF THE
PROFESSORS OF POLITICAL ECONOMY
IN THE SEVERAL
UNIVERSITIES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM;
THE FOLLOWING
LETTER
TO THE LORDS AND COMMONS,
HUMBLY SUBMITTED.

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PREFACE.

SOME apology may appear necessary to those, to whom the following letter is addressed, for the introduction therein of so much matter, with which they cannot be unacquainted; especially that which more particularly refers to the rudimental principles of political philosophy; but having been in a great measure guided by an anxiety to direct popular attention to the true causes of the rise or decline of national wealth, and as it is most desirable for the

proper exercise of public judgment that the elements of a science, which has ever been regarded as difficult and abstruse, should be compressed into their most intelligible form, I have not hesitated to run the risk of rendering my remarks tedious to a few, in the hope that they may prove a source of information to many.

I may be accused of vanity for this declaration ; but if the publication of the work itself be not a sufficient cause of such accusation, no prefatory remarks can increase the justice of it.

It is true that I have ventured to express positive opinions in contradiction to received authorities. It is also true that I have presumed to promulgate assertions as to the causes of our distress, and its remedy, which

many would perhaps have hesitated to pronounce. But I have not thus acted without a belief that I possess the information and the power necessary to the defence of my own positions. At all events it is consolatory to know that if I be defeated, the defeat, in a good cause, cannot be discreditable to me ; if victorious, that my humble endeavours to promote the welfare and happiness of my country and mankind, cannot be altogether unworthy of parliamentary and public countenance.