

humbled throughout

~~in their letters, &c.~~ can be more conveniently treated
of controversially than directly: the answer to ^{single} a question
may generally be made clearer than ^{the} a statement
which endeavours to anticipate ^{many} several: and the
vigour of a truth is often best seen in the course
of its collisions with ^{some serene} ~~fallacious~~ ^{a somewhat thoughtless or dishonest} fallacy.

But there is a deeper reason than any ^{of these} ~~for the~~ ^{of their} ~~for the~~
for the quality of these ^{books} ~~letters~~. Since they ^{are} ~~are~~ ^{such accidental ones}

Cost me, as aforesaid, much trouble, ~~to write~~, -
since they interrupted me in work which was usually
liable to ^{take harm} ~~be interrupted~~ by interruption - and since - as will
be seen in several instances, they were ^{like} ~~likely~~ almost
in the degree of their force, to be refused by ^{the editors of the} ~~the~~ ^{newspaper}
journals, I never was tempted into writing a word for
the public press, unless concerning matters which I had
~~at~~ much at heart. And the issue is, therefore, that
these ^{following} two volumes contain the very ^{indices} ~~very~~ ^{of the} ~~of the~~
of everything I have ^{and} ~~ever~~ ^{loved for} ~~loved~~ ^{during the} ~~during the~~
last forty years, ~~which~~ not a few of their ^{political} ~~letters~~ ^{letters}
relate to events of the most profound historical
importance that have occurred during the period
they cover - and it has been not an uneventful one.

~~It would have been grave, also, a but all inconclusive.~~
Nor have the events been without gravity; the greater, because
they have all been inconclusive, ^{and} ~~and~~ their true conclusions
we perhaps never than any of us can apprehend; and
^{the fact} I may be called to take in them, though I am old - or
perhaps I should rather say, because I am old - will
as far as I can ^{with judge, or reader} ~~be~~ ^{that} ~~not~~ ^{literary} ~~merely~~ ^{one} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~literary~~
~~concern~~ ~~concernful~~ ~~concernful~~, ~~a~~ ~~unattached~~ ~~concerning~~

Whether I am spared to put into act anything here designed for any
country's help, or am shielded by death from the sight of her ^{remissness} ~~remissness~~
sorrow, I have already done for her as much service as she has will to
receive, by laying before her facts vital to her existence, and unalterable
by her power, in words of which not one has been warped by interest
or weakened by fear; and which are as free of selfish passion as
if they were spoken already out of another world.

W. Russell. Intellectual's Day. 1880.