

sence, the monograph was unluckily mislaid, and my repeated search for it was ineffectual till this morning, when a fortunate chance revealed it under a heap of papers I was about to burn. I have read it with a curiosity all the livelier because I know next to nothing of the history of the French in Canada, and I have found it exceedingly interesting. In their rivalries beyond the bounds of Europe both France and England seem to have been at all times equally incapable of appreciating and adequately supporting the greatest men these rivalries produced on either side.

“What do you think of Chamberlain’s mission? He has been rendering admirable service to the cause of the Union at home. How he will play the part of diplomatist abroad, I do not know, but he is an able, clear-headed man who, since he takes a genuine interest in the subject of her negotiations, is likely, I hope, to prove a safe and successful negotiator.

Balfour is very confident of the ultimate success of his Irish Administration, and not in the least discouraged or intimidated by the furious raging of the Nationalists and English Home Rulers. But we are no doubt only at the beginning of a very long and troublesome conflict with anarchical forces, which have been suffered to acquire a very strong organization, which command a considerable representation in Parliament, and which, though they would be utterly powerless under any firm personal rule, have still on their side the advantage of being opposed only by a nation that is divided against itself, and an Executive hampered at every turn (in spite of the Crimes Act), by its representative character, its constitutional traditions, and the morbid sentimentality of an untrained, untried, and inexperienced democracy.

“Yours truly,  
“LYTTON.”

