

justly, damaged Mr. Froude's reputation as a historian in the judgment of the most eminent literary men and the best literary journals of the United States.

—Before the appearance of our next number the British Parliament will have commenced its sittings. Accurate programmes of the Ministerial policy have, of course, been published in advance by journals possessed of exclusive sources of information. But European statesmen have learned the art of being interviewed. It is easier to say that the county franchise and the land law are the great questions of the day in England than to tell whether they are coming before Parliament. The question of County administration, however, is pretty sure to be brought forward, and the Government can hardly avoid facing that of University Education in Ireland, about which there is certain to be a fight. There will, of course, be a debate at the opening of the session on the Treaty of Washington, and among other matters connected with the Treaty, the state of feeling in Canada will no doubt be a subject of discussion. Independent Canadian journals may therefore do a timely service by correcting the error of a portion of the British press which persists in representing our people as in a state of violent exasperation against the Treaty, and in ascribing to this cause the losses of the Government in the recent elections. No one living in Canadian society could for a moment be under this impression. There is among our people a strong feeling, which we entirely share, that while reparation was made to the Americans for the wrong done them in the case of the Alabama, reparation ought to have been exacted of them for the far greater and more flagrant wrong done to Canada and the Empire in the case of the Fenian raids. There is a strong feeling, which we equally share, that the general bearing of the British Government shows a great want of appreciation of the character of American politicians, and a lack of dignity calculated to increase

the danger which dignity is sacrificed to avert. There is a conviction, in which we concur, that it would have been better to keep the special questions between Canada and the United States distinct from what was, in fact, a negotiation for a treaty of peace between England and the United States, terminating the state of moral war to which the Alabama affair had given rise. There are also doubts, which experience alone can set at rest, as to the operation of the clauses of the Treaty affecting our territorial rights. But anything like violent exasperation there is not, and there has never been. The Opposition journals, as a matter of course, denounced a Treaty made by the Prime Minister. The Government journals were also tuned at first to a certain degree of opposition with a view to justifying the demand for the Pacific Railway guarantee. But the commercial community of Montreal accepted the Treaty at once; it was soon accepted by the fishermen, though their employers were more adverse; while in Ontario, which is strongly under the influence of the leading journal of the Opposition, there was a certain amount of adverse feeling, and a general conviction that the British Government had been rather disgracefully overreached; but all attempts to lash the people into fury totally failed. The vote of our Parliament was an accurate registration of the sentiments of our people. The losses of the Government in the elections were chiefly in Ontario, where the Liberal party simply gained an ascendancy which had always belonged to it, and which it lost at the last general election only owing to the exceptional state of public feeling produced by the desire to give a fair trial to the first Confederation Government, and by the impression that it had not received just treatment at the hands of the Liberal chief. If any special cause contributed to what was in the main the result of revived party strength and discipline, it was the Scott murder, and the equivocal relations of the Government with the murderer Riel. Sir