

tion and hope still before them. Something in the march of events here will be determined by the relations between the two mother countries. Mr. Hamerton, who has studied the French people most thoroughly and most sympathetically, says in his "French and English" that peace and courtesy may be maintained between the two nations, but that they never can be friends. It is too evident that Sedan has not effaced Waterloo.

—The signal success of Mr. Wiman's meeting at Toronto set two questions at rest. It proved that in the very centre of Separatism and Protectionism the desire for freedom of trade with our continent is strong, and it proved that in Canada public discussion is not to be put down by personal slander. To pretend that the meeting was not with Mr. Wiman is shameless: whether it was with the particular scheme could not be decided, as the scheme was not submitted to the vote; but it clearly was with the general object and with the injured man. Mr. Wiman called attention to the important fact that immense masses of English capital are being invested in the United States, so that England is acquiring an interest in the internal commerce of this continent which bears a large proportion to her interest in importation, while this vast redundancy of wealth is a pretty conclusive answer to the assertion that she has been impoverished by free trade. Very timely, too, was the warning to us in Toronto that our prosperity must ultimately depend on the condition of the farmer, and that we have consequently the deepest interest in any policy which will increase his earnings by giving him a better market. Our city is at present draining the country towns, most of which are consequently going backward: this is the source of her present growth; but it is a cornucopia which must presently cease to flow: we shall then have to look almost entirely to the farm, and the farm, let it be remembered, has been declining in value. Mr. Blue rates the depreciation since 1883 at twenty-two mil-