

mising character, and has already given way to calmer views of those practical benefits, which all who are interested in the preservation of peace and friendship between Great Britain and America are glad to entertain.

The defence, therefore, of this important public act might, on the part of this country at least, have been safely left to its own operation, if the opposition to it had been confined to the people that were parties to it. This has not been the case. A writer* of ability in a neighbouring nation, appearing to be influenced by a jealous impatience at the prosperity and glory of England, and mistaking the motives and the conduct of her Government, has studiously engaged in misrepresenting both, and seems to wish, with perverse energy, to lower Great Britain in the eyes of the nations of Europe, from the high moral position she has taken.

And as a great majority of those who constitute public opinion in all countries have neither the time nor the means to form an accurate judgment of the real value of those controversial statements, assertions, and arguments which are advanced, it becomes the fit and natural duty of those who are differently situated, and indeed of

* *Revue des Deux Mondes. Diplomatie Etrangère. Du nouveau Traité entre l'Angleterre et les Etats Unis.—Paris, Octobre, 1842.*