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THE QUEBEC BILL.

CANADA'S TRANSITION STATE.

A paper read by MR. GERALD E. HART before the Society for Historical Studies, Montreal, November, 1890.

"Voici le Pape du Canada et le Sot des Anglicans,"* were the significant words appended to the small but handsome marble statue of George the Third, the gift of the King to the city, now decorated with full papal insignia, mitre, cross and rosary, the face even bedaubed with lamp black, which met the eyes of the astounded citizens of Montreal as they wended their way to their places of business on the morning of the 1st May, 1775.

The motive was suspected and generally understood, so that there was an evident lack of zeal attending the efforts to discover the actual perpetrators, the authorities, no doubt, realising that they were treading on dangerous ground. Heavy rewards were offered and much apparent indignation expressed. An example had to be found and a martyr made, and as a young merchant, named Franks, did not denounce the act as loudly as all others, and had the

* Here is the Pope of Canada and the Fool of Englishmen.