

who have a strange history. Fifty years ago an Irish sailor was shipwrecked in the Gulf and started to travel afoot. He could speak but four words of habitant French, and these formed his stereotyped reply as to where he came from and whither he was going—*J'en sais rien*, "I don't know." These words he had readily picked up, because their pronunciation resembled that of his name, which was John C. Ryan. At Cacouna he went to work for a wealthy French Canadian, in whose household he was known as *J'en Sais Rien*, and married his daughter, the parish register describing him as "*J'en Sais Rien dit l'Irlandais*"—"I don't know, alias the Irishman"—and Ryan's numerous progeny bear the name to-day. The Princess met a young Saisrien at Cacouna in the summer, and the lad showing marvellous skill as an artist she placed him in the hands of a Quebec painter, and will send him to Europe when he is old enough.



RELIC OF THE "RESOLUTE."



MASSIVE desk or writing table has recently been received at Washington as a present from Queen Victoria to the President of the United States. It is made of live oak, and weighs 1,300 pounds; is elaborately carved, and, altogether, presents a magnificent specimen of workmanship. Upon a smooth panel is the following inscription:—

"Her Majesty's ship *Resolute*, forming part of the expedition sent in search of Sir John Franklin in 1852, was abandoned in latitude 74 deg. 41 min., longitude 101 deg. 12 min. West, on May 15, 1854. She was discovered and extricated in September, 1855, in latitude 67 deg. North, by Captain Buddington, of the United States whaler *George Henry*. She was purchased, fitted out and sent to England