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QUEBEC LEGISLATURE.

Agriculture-Mr. Rodier's Will-Homestead Laws.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE TRUE

WITNESS. QUEBEC, December S.—The last week of the session los not been very eventful, the principal matter before the Chamber being the financial statement. A bill having reference to the exemption of public employees salaries from seizure was referred to the Legislature committee. A rather noteworthy bill to alter the disposal of moneys as willed by the late Senator Rodier caused some discussion. Mr. Fitzpatrick strongly opposed the principle of interference by the Legislature with testaments; and his theory was supported by other members. On division, however, the measure was carried by a vote of 45 to 19. On Wednesday Mr. Nantel moved that the Government adopt the Ontario law regarding tree grant homesteads. He held that too many conditions were imposed on the settlers in Quebec. Mr. Duhamel said he thought the laws as now existing were very much like those in Ontario and as good. Mr. Blanchet said the matter was one above mere politics and involved the welfare of the province. Mr. Mercier said that the adoption of the Ontario law would cost the province \$60,000 a year. Mr. Poupore condemned the Government colonization policy and the motion was referred to the colonization committee. A bill to amend the St. Cunegonde the same day it appears the liabilities of the province amount to \$27,106,852, and the assets to \$11,131,784—excess of lia-bilities \$16,055,007. On Thursday the that of the same class in Great Britain; principal work done was the discussion of education, Mr. Tessier holding that a responsible Minister of Education be approached by the Education by the Education be approached by the Education by the Educa pointed. Mr. Mercier stated that the Government had not as yet considered the question, though it was deserving of the language of the inhabitants can be attention. He also hinted at increased understood without the slightest difficulgrants to elementary schools. On Friday Mr. Shehyn delivered his annual tinanto \$1,162,001,46. Referring to the question of the assets and liabilities of the the liabilities was about the same as on proportion of the agricultural population

#### FÁTHER DAWSON HONORED.

which he held was not unsatisfactory.

that the floating debt amounted to \$6.-762,033.86. Regarding the conversion of

(Continued from first page.)

and made some allusion to the pains which he took to afford information to the people of Ottawa long, long ago, concerning the Northwest. By lectures and by means of writing he did his best to make known that solitary region to the people at a time when it was only known. people, at a time when it was only known to a few explorers. (Applause.) The reverend father went on to give a recital of the efforts of the late Mr. Wm. Dawson, M.P. for Three Rivers, to secure a railway through the Northwest territories in order to place it in connection with the eastern province, how the firm of Baring & Co. refused to give the necessary financial backing to the enterprise, which, however, was afterwards approved of by Baron Rothschild. "If," said Father United States in the sense of indisposi-Dawson, "the magnificent offer of Baron Rotschild had been accepted at 'I am ill,' It scarcely need be said that

It almost overcame him to think he should be thought so much of, for the very little he had done as a writer. (Applause.) In those days when he did write somewhat, he was so much engaged by the duties of his calling he did not have much leisure for reflection, reading, or any studies apart from those essential to his state of life. He again expressed is admiration for the elegance of composition, and the fullness of detail of the address. It had only one fault. It was too complimentary. (No, no.)
After a humorous reference to the set

of furs presented him, the rev. father went on to speak about the purse. "Gold power," said he, "and do you mean to ave me power by presenting this purse of gold? (applause.) Ah, take care, take alvice, consider whether this would be onsistent with equal rights of which we ear so much." (Laughter.) Gold would ind close and closer together the nations, are provinces, the colonies which constitute this great empire. This had already been accomplished to a great extent, but Miranda exclaims: e hoped that in the course of time they ording of the empire. (Applause.) As member of the Local Imperial FederaSo obsolete, however, is now the word verning colonies should not be interit, giving the definition as 'timorous.' bers' Journal.
ed with: (Applause.) When the In America, the expression, 'He is a
different colonies were confederated what fearful man,' or, She is a fearful woman,'
Besides his large legacy to Cornell University

be stilled. The revertabler concluded by again expressing his grafitude to those who had by their presence given evidence of their good will towards him? I Loud ap-

Mr. Sanford Fleming announced briefly that he was there to extend the heartfelt greeting from Queen's university, and asked for three hearty cheers for the Rev. Father Dawson, which were heartily given. Those present then stepped forward and each heartily shook hands with the venerable priest, wishing him many

happy returns of the day.

The pulse presented to Rev. Father
Dawson contained \$400, whilst the set of furs cost \$180.

#### SOME AMERICANISMS.

Old Englsh Terms transferred to this Continent-Changes of Idiom

A very erroneous impression generally exists in this country as to the manner in which the English language is spoken in the United States. This has arisen in some degree from the circumstance that travellers have dwelt upon and exaggerated such peculiarities of language as have come under their observation in various parts of the Union; but also in greater measure from the fact that in English novels and dramas in which an American figures—no, matter whether the character depicted be re presented as a man of good social position and, presumably, fair education, or not—he is made to express himself in a dialect happily combining the peculiarities of speech of every section of the country from Maine to Texas. With the exception of the late Mr. Anthony Trollope's American Senator, I cannot recall to mind a single work of fiction in which this is not the case. Take, for instance, those portions of Martin Chuzzlewit the scenes of which are laid in the United States; Richard Fairfield, in Bulwer's My Novel; the Colonel in Lever's One of Them; Fullalove, in Charles Reade's Very Hard Cash; the younger Fenton in Yate's Black Sheep; or the American traveler in Muchy, Inneticution in cash and are in the state of th Mugby Junction—in each and every instance the result is to convey a most erroneous idea as to the manner in which our common tongue is ordinarily spoken in the United States.

It is the same on the stage. The dialect in which Americans are usually made to express themselves in English dramas is as incorrect and absurd as was the language put into the mouths of their Irish characters by the playwrights charter was passed. By a return made of the early part of the eighteenth cen-

> As a matter of fact, the speech of eduwhilst, as regards the great bulk of the more idiomatic English than do the masses here. In every State of the Union

ty. This is more than can be said of the dialects of the peasantry in various parts mr. Shenyn denvered his annual man-cial statement. He showed that the total payments for the fiscal year were \$5,312,907.65, and the total receipts, \$5,88,920.55. On the payments he regard-ed as extraordinary expenditure railway subsidies and miscellaneous, amounting to flife forms a marked contrast to the poverty of speech of the same class in his country, where, as an eminent philprovince he remarked that the figure of ologist has declared, a very considerable

the 30th June, 1889, but the assets, which make use of a vocabulary not exceeding had amounted to 12,813,960.50, showed a diminution of \$1,632,175.36. He said But to return to the subject of this paper. Some words which have become interpose, and explain how their mutual obsolete in this country, or now convey a the debt he stated that the Government totally different meaning from that pri-had received confidential proposals which marily attaching to them, are still curit would be injudicious at present to rent in America in the sense in which make pable. He concluded with a they were originally employed. Prink, general review of the financial situation to ornament or adorn, which is found in Spenser and other writers of the Elizabethean age, is at the present day a com-

mon term in the Eastern States. One yankee girl will say to another, who has been some time at her toilet, 'Oh, you have been prinking;' cr, 'What a long while it has taken you to prink! In fact ry, it is good Shakspearean English. In Antony and Cleopatra, Antony says:

'Of late wnen I cry'd he! Like boys unto a muss, kings would start forth. Lamm, to beat, to maltreat, is an American word of English parentage. In a vocabulary of north-country ballad of the time of Eastern States. Edward VI., one line runs: They lammed him and bammed him; and the word may also be found in Marlowe. Sick is an expression universally used in the Baron Rotschild had been accepted at the time, the railway would have been the phrase was perfectly good English two centuries and a half ago, the word stances in the United States. A place 'ill,' with the meaning now attaching to where goods are sold at retail is called a where goods are sold at retail is called a it, not once occurring in the translation of the Bible.

Bug, again, employed in America as a generic term for every species of insect, was used in England, formerly, in the same sense. 'A bug hath buzzed it in mine ears,' says Bacon in one of his letters. At the present day the word has in England so limited an application that when an edition of the works of Edgar Allen Poe was published in London, the editor altered the title of one story, The Golden Bug, to The Golden Beetle, in

order not to give offence to 'ears polite.' Fearful, which now signifies to inspire terror or awe, has still in the United States the meaning it bore in Shake-speare's time, when it was invariably used in the sense of timid or afraid. In Romeo and Juliet, when Romeo, after slaying Tybalt, is lying hidding in Friar Law-rence's cell, the Friar says:

'Romeo, come forth, come forth, thou fearful and again, in The Tempest, in that scene

O Doar father, Make not to rash a trial of him, for He's gentle and not fearful.

in League he could assure them the in the sense in which it is employed by tembers were decidedly of the opinion the poet, that in most editions of at the actual governments of the self Shakspeare, a footnote is appended to A HANDSOME PRESENT FOR \$2.50

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to be conveyed being precisely the opposite to that which in this country would attach to the phrase.

Some common English words have in the United States completely lost their original signification, wherefore, it would not be easy to say. Ugly, for instance, means illnatured; smart, clever; clever, of an amiable disposition and lovely although this last locution is not perhaps so common as the others—lovable.

I was, when resident in New York, present during a conversation in the course of which a rather curious equivoque occurred, owing to the peculiar sense in which the words in question are used on the other side of the Atlantic. On the occasion referred to, an American lady and an Englishwomanwho had only been a short time in the United States-were speaking of an old gentleman with whom they both were icquainted. The former was warm in his praises.

Mr R-,' she declared, 'is quite love-'Why,' was the suprised reply, 'how

can you think so! I consider him decidedly ugly.'
'Ugly!' indignantly retorted the first

speaker. 'He is not at all ugly. On the contrary, he is real clever.' 'That Mr. R-is a man of talent, I dmit,' was the response; ' but he is cer-

In connection with the phrase, 'A man of talent,' made use of by my countrywoman in the course of the above conversation, I may observe that 'talent' or 'talented'is an expression seldom heard from the lips of a native of New England. Lord Maculay asserts that these words owe their origin to the 'Parable of the Talents' in the New Testament, and on one occasion he challenged Lady Holland to cite a single instance of their being employed by an English writer prior to the latter part of the seventeenth century. To the circumstances, therefore, that at the period when the uritans left their native lands to seek new homes in the New World the provide in constitution to the terms of th World, the words in question had not been incorporated into the language, may, I conceive, be attributed the fact that to this day they seldom have a place in the vocabulary of the inhabitants of the

When a word is already in existence which is fully adequate to express the idea it is employed to convey, it seems not a little curious that the use of it should be superseded by another, not, indeed, coined for the purpose, but by 'store,' not a shop, the use of the latter word being exclusively confined to those establishments in which some manufacturing or other mechanical industry is carried on. When 'corn' is spoken of, maize or Indian corn is always meant; all the other cereals being invariably designated by their respective names, as wheat, cats, barley, &c. Railway in America becomes 'railroad;' station, 'depot,' line, 'track;' carriage, 'car;' whilst for tram, the phrase employed is 'horse-par' 'A timbar building is 'horse-car;' A timber building is a frame building; 'a row of houses, is a block' of houses. For poorhouse or workhouse the expression used is 'Almshouse.' When the idea intended to be conveyed is that which an Englishman attaches to the latter i hrase, the word , asylum ' or ' home ' is used by an Amer-

In fact, a list which should comprise all the words employed by our transatlantic cousins in a different sense from ourselves would be a tolerably long one. But the desultory examples I have given will suffice to illustrate the fact—to which I have already adverted—that, in numerous instances, and without any apparent cause, many common English words have acquired in the United States a totally different meaning from that which they bear in this country.—Cham-

illerent colonies were confederated what fearful man, or, She is a fearful woman, sense would they require? They had is frequently applied to an individual of the voices of war would be used to be u

#### TORONTO NOTES.

His Lordship Bishop O'Connor of London, His Lordship Bishop O'Connor of London, who was a student at St. Michael's College some years ago, was given a public reception last week at the institution. A banquet, to which about 75 guests were present, was held, and his Grace the Archbishop presided. The students of the college presented Bishop O'Connor with a beautiful address, to which he made a happy reply, and concluded by securing the promise of a holiday for the boys. An address was presented by the students to his Grace the Archbishop, who briefly replied.

The Basilian Fathers of the city and a number of the clergy were united in a solemn requiem High Mass at St. Basil's Church last week, the thirtieth day since the death of Rev. Chas. Vincent, V.G. His Lordship the Bishop of London was the officiating prelate, assisted by Father Marijon as assistant celebrant, Father Teety and McBrady as deacons; Father O'Donohue, deacon of the Mass; Father Guinane, sub-deacon, and Father Dumouchel, master of ceremonies. Among the prelates and clergy present were the following:—His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto, Bishop O'Connor of Peterboro', Bishop O'Mahoney; Fathers Flannery, St, Thomas; Campbell, Orillia; McEvoy, Hamilton; Gibbany, Alliston; Rooney, V.G., Laboreau, V.G.; Egan, Thornhill; McMahon, Brighton; Crinnon; Hamilton; Lawlor, Toronto; Cassidy, Barrie. Walsh, Toronto; Maddigan, Dundas; Fenny, Brantford; Kiernan, Whitby; Jeffcott, Pickering; Conway, Peterboro'; O'Leary, Hamilton; Frailing, Sheehan, Lynch, Hand, Davis. Mass was sung by the boys of the college, under the leadership of Father Chalandard. requiem High Mass at St. Basil's Church last

The first annual banquet and installation of officers of the St. Alphonsus Young Men's Caadmit,' was the response; but he is certainly anything but good-looking.'

"Well, I do not deny that he is homely and I never said that he was not,' rejoined the other lady.

"But,' exclaimed the puzzled Englishwoman, you have just asserted that he was not ugly.'

"No more he is!' was the quick retort.

When the dialogue had reached this point, it being obvious not only that the two ladies were at cross-purposes, but that they were, in consequence, becoming a little heated, I deemed it advisable to interpose, and explain how their mutual misapprehension had arisen.

In connection with the phrase, 'A man

tholk Association was held last week. Rev. R. J. Teefy, B.A., presided; among those present were His Grace Archbishop Walsh Frank Smith and Father McBrady. Letters of regret were read from the Hon. C. F. Fraser, Vicar-General Laurent, Dean McCann, Mr. J. J. F. Brown; vice-president, Vincent McBrady; treasurer, James McCabe; financial secretary, Ed. Travers; recording-secretary, S. P. Grant; librarian, John Clerk. During the evening a long list of toasts were responded to, His Grace Archbishop Walsh responding to the toast "His Holiness the Pope." "Our Retiring Officers" was coupled with the name of Mr. J. I. Travers. Mr. J. E. Brown responded to "Our Association, its Aims and Objects," Mr. A. Cottam to "Catholic Institutions," Mr. V. McBrady to "The Learned Professions," and Mr. Wm. Barron to "The Leades." tholic Association was held last week. Rev.

#### CANADIAN.

Toronto has been obliged to borrow \$200.000. Over 50 boats are frozen in on the Eric canal.

It is said Sir. Donald Smith has been asked to become a candidate for the mayoralty of Montreal. Fire destroyed a number of stores in Coati cook, Que., early on the 3rd inst.

Major-Gen. Herbert has arrived at Ottawa and assumed command yesterday. John A. Patterson & Co., wholesale millinery, Montreal, have suspended. Liabilities estimated at \$100,000.

The Toronto Separate School Board has decided to replace the secular teachers by members of religious orders. It is said that C. A. Dansereau will be appointed postmaster for Montreal, vice Mr. Lamothe, superannuated.

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Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

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