

| ENGLISH.                  | AMERICAN.     |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Reel                      | Spool         |
| Porridge                  | Mush          |
| A jibbing horse           | A balky horse |
| Tobacconist's             | Cigar Store   |
| Beet Root                 | Beet          |
| Cotillion                 | German        |
| Keyless watch             | Stem-winder   |
| Bitter                    | Beer          |
| Railway                   | Railroad      |
| The line                  | The track     |
| The metals                | The rails     |
| To shunt                  | To switch     |
| A siding                  | A turnout     |
| Engine                    | Locomotive    |
| Driver                    | Engineer      |
| Stoker                    | Fireman       |
| Guard                     | Conductor     |
| Luggage                   | Baggage       |
| Luggage-van               | Carriage-car  |
| Goods train               | Freight train |
| Pointsman or<br>Signalman | Switch tender |
| Ill                       | Sick          |
| Goodnatured               | Clever        |
| Clever                    | Smart         |
| Smart                     | Fashionable   |

So far the examples which that paper gives, they suggest the difference which exists. Certainly, from San Francisco to Fredericton "American" is generally in agreement, as opposed to "English."

Mr. Brander Matthews will have it that "Briticisms" are corrupting pure American English. And several other American writers declare the time is soon coming when of course the standard of good English will have been set up on this side of the Atlantic.

On the other hand, an angry Englishman writes to the London Daily Chronicle, on "American barbarisms, as theater, meager, scepter," and on "miserable exotics. . . of a foreign and repulsive diction. . . utter abom-

ination in the eyes of an ordinary Englishman"; making his protest against "once a man makes this attempt," for "as soon as a man has made. . ."; and against "quite a crowd"; against "over your signature," for "under your signature"; "plurality," for "majority"; "I expect he did," for "I suspect he did"; "smoke-room," for "smoking-room" "sidewalk," for "pavement," or "path."

Why not, says this Englishman, why not "dine-room," "sit-room," "wait-room," and "middle walk," for road?

But he lets quiet light in on his fury, by allowing that "plurality" is in old dictionaries. The fact is there are Americanisms and Americanisms. Many are survivals. "My own experience," says Mr. George Newcomen, in the Academy, "is that most 'Americanisms,' and indeed 'Irishisms,' are properly archaisms." No one can have listened to various forms of English literature without knowing the truth in that remark. This writer cites "let slide" from Chaucer's "Clerke's Tale," and, of course, "I guess," from the "Prologue." And "right," as in "right away," is in Chaucer, in his "Tale of Meliboeus":—"And all were it so that she right now were dede." He notes among Americans of today "many quaint words"; "fall," for autumn; "pitcher," for jug; "freshet" for brook (sic). "Homely," he says, is invariably used to imply absence of beauty, and he quotes the "Two Gentlemen of Verona" (ii. 4 98), "Upon a homely object love can wink."

"In conclusion, I would sincerely express a hope that Americans