

been mentioned, if mentioned at all, as a well-intentioned effort to remove a difficulty which unhappily still exists. The aspiration for the speedy arrival of the time when "the two Governments can approach the solution of this 'momentous question with an appreciation of what is 'due to the honour of each,' &c., would have deserved a more hearty response, had it not been preceded by such a full definition of the 'appreciation' of one of the parties to the question, and followed so soon after by the assurance that 'this is now the only grave question which 'the United States have with any foreign nation.' However, we must remember that President Grant has to speak to an audience who demand a little buncombe, even in a sober state paper, and we shall continue to believe that when the Americans are tired of keeping up the Alabama claims as a grievance, against other possible eventualities, they will come to an amicable settlement concerning them; but, not before President Grant's term of office is much nearer its close than now.

There is a charming frankness in the allusion to Reciprocity with this country, which follows immediately after the reference to the "Alabama" question. The message says:—

"The question of renewing a treaty for reciprocal trade between the United States and the British Provinces on this continent has not been favourably considered by the Administration. The advantage of such a treaty would be wholly in favour of the British Provinces, except possibly a few engaged in the trade between the two sections. No citizen of the United States would be benefited by reciprocity,—our internal taxation would prove a protection to the British producer, almost equal to the protection which our manufacturers now receive from the tariff. Some arrangement, however, for the regulation of commercial intercourse between the United States and the Dominion of Canada may be desirable."

We believe this view, or at least the main conclusion, that there should be no renewal of reciprocity with Canada, is very generally entertained throughout the United States. The agriculturists, and they form a large class, are opposed to reciprocity, for reasons which are quite intelligible: the coal, the lumbering and other interests, share in the hostility for reasons not dissimilar, while the politician opposes it from blind perversity of judgment. Under these circumstances Canadian policy should be shaped without reference to a prospective renewal of the Treaty, and at the same time a willing ear should be lent to any proposition for an "arrangement" that would remove some of the irksome restrictions which at present needlessly fetter intercourse between the two countries. But there is evidently dignity to be sacrificed without the prospect of advantage to be gained by our attempting a renewal of negotiations for reciprocity.

The message is neither lofty nor statesmanlike in its conception. It mildly follows the well-worn groove of Congressional policy, and in this it agrees with the dominant American sentiment of the time. The course recommended in dealing with the currency and the public debt will find general favour with the outside world; and but for the needless criticism of the "abortive efforts" of a previous administration to settle the vexed Alabama question, there is little room for complaint in the tone adopted towards foreign nations. If, as has been asserted, President Grant entertains very "pronounced" notions on foreign policy, he has had the caution not as yet to show his hand, as well as the discrimination to drop a few hints in relation to European colonial possessions in America, and in regard to the unsettled claims between Great Britain and the Republic, which might, at a future time, be tortured into a meaning with a menace in it. But for the present, it appears that his administration have rightly resolved to address themselves to the duties imposed upon them by the existing condition of their home affairs; and their efforts to put these on a better footing will receive the hearty sympathy of their neighbours.

RED RIVER.—The situation of affairs in the Red River Settlement remains unchanged. Later details indicate that the insurgent force did not at any time exceed two or three hundred men, and that the prospects for an early settlement are increasing. A despatch from St. Paul, December 6, says that a large amount of arms and ammunition belonging to the Canadian Government, stored at Georgetown, en route under bond to Fort Garry, was recently removed across the borders to Fort Abercrombie for safe keeping, it being understood a conspiracy was on foot to seize it. The proclamation issued by Governor McTavish, of the Hudson's Bay Company, on the 16th of November, in which he warned the people to respect the laws, and to resort only to Constitutional means, had a happy effect. A man who left Fort Garry on the 22nd of November reported at St. Paul on the 6th that only about fifty of the insurgents remained under arms, the remainder having gone to the plains upon their winter buffalo hunt. The Indian tribes, the Crees and Bungeis, are reported favourable to the Canadian authorities, and there is said to be a strong feeling in the Settlement against the course pursued by the half breeds. Governor McTavish continued very ill, with little or no hope of recovery, but his authority was respected in civil matters. Mr. D. A. Smith, the General Manager of the Hudson's Bay Company in Canada, has been instructed to proceed to Fort Garry to assist Governor McTavish in the administration of affairs. The Government of Canada have

despatched Grand Vicar Thibault and Col. DeSalaberry to the Red River Settlement to confer with the half breeds and ascertain the nature of their grievances. This commission will doubtless be productive of the happiest results, and in all probability the Hon. Mr. McDougall and party will remain at Pembina until the Grand Vicar and Col. DeSalaberry, who left Ottawa on Wednesday last, shall have made a report of the real state of affairs in the Settlement. In the meantime it is not improbable that the Queen's proclamation annexing the North-West to Canada will be withheld, until there is reasonable assurance of quiet possession.

Literary Notices.

MY ENEMY'S DAUGHTER. A novel by Justin McCarthy, author of "The Waterdale Neighbours" &c. : New York, Harper & Brothers; Montreal: Dawson Brothers.

A romance full of thrilling incident, very pleasantly told. There are several "heart histories" interwoven in the plot and the author seems to understand well the outer and the inner springs of human action.

L'ECHO DE LA FRANCE, NOVEMBER, 1869. MONTRÉAL.

This excellent periodical is a collection of carefully chosen essays on science, philosophy, fine arts, history, religion, and politics, and reproduces some of the best writings of the most able French authors and essayists of the day. It contains from 100 to 150 pages monthly, forming two volumes yearly. The perusal of which will give its readers a clear idea of the state of the literary and scientific world.

A TALE OF THE SEA, and other Poems, by John Fraser, (Cousin Sandy.) Montreal: Dawson Brothers.

The Scottish muse thrives well on being transplanted to Canadian soil, if we are to judge by the volume before us. The main poem which gives its title to the book—"A Tale of the Sea"—recites the adventures of a lad who, under pressure of a stepfather's administration, is apprenticed to a ship captain, who to cure the boy of some of his juvenile frolics had him put into a cask, and, a storm coming, the cask is washed overboard and the hero in it. The incidents which follow are the most grotesque, and are amusingly described, and just as amusingly illustrated by some of our Montreal artists. Bill Blythe is finally released in a manner truly miraculous, and discovered by a Yankee girl who tends him in his consequent illness, and whom he afterwards marries. It is altogether a humorous piece, freely interspersed with puns old and new, and will pleasantly while away an idle hour. Some of the shorter pieces are, perhaps, of more merit and certainly of more artistic finish. "Both sides of the Organ," "We're all going homeward," "May we no hae a Gaelic Professor," &c., &c., have already appeared in some of the city journals, and well sustain the vein of satire, which is the strongest trait in "Cousin Sandy's" poetical compositions. An old elm tree, at Stunstead, Eastern Townships, is the theme of two excellent pieces in a loftier, or at least more serious strain, than that which characterizes most of the other pieces in the book. In "Musings on the Chaudière," the author takes a somewhat higher poetical flight than usual. He "moralised in his musings," and had a very pretty vision of the "giant river" and "the haunts of savage men." Then

"Men of a kindred nation,
In whose veins is commingled our blood,
On the Chaudière have taken their station
And have tamed this once terrible flood."

The dignity of labour calls forth the author's warmest commendation; but even the dignity of labour cannot be asserted without a slap at "the craft of the statesman." "Cousin Sandy's" book is beautifully got up, being printed on heavy toned paper, and elegantly bound, and the illustrations are very creditable to the artists and engravers of Montreal.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.—The Common School Act was read a second time and referred to committee, on motion of Hon. M. C. Cameron. Mr. Attorney-General Macdonald gave notice of a motion that the House go into committee to consider a resolution regarding the annual payment of a certain sum, \$1000, to each of the Judges of the Superior Courts, and to the Chief Justice of the Court of Error and Appeal in Ontario, as compensation for the services rendered by the said Judges in the said Circuit of Error and Appeal, and in the Heir and Devise Commission. Mr. Blake moved that an humble address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that she may be graciously pleased to cause a measure to be submitted to the Imperial Parliament, for the purpose of removing all color for the assumption by the Parliament of Canada of the power to disturb the financial relations established by the British North America Act (1867), as between Canada and the several Provinces. The Attorney-General would vote with his honorable friend, although he questioned somewhat the existence of the danger which his honorable friend foresaw. After debate the motion was carried by a vote of 57 to 12, and the address reported and concurred in. The Attorney-General obtained leave to introduce a bill with reference to proceedings in judges' chambers on Common Law. He explained that there were many circumstances arising out of illness and temporary incapacity when they were obliged to appoint gentlemen who were not judges to act as judges. This bill would provide that such actuary judges shall have power to act in all matters as judges in all cases that are brought before them; that in fact they should have all powers, rights and privileges of Judges of the Superior Courts. It was intended to permit judges alluded to to decide upon all those minor matters which might as well be attended to by clerks as by the Superior Court Judges. The bill was read a first time. Mr. Blake moved the second reading of his bill to prevent corrupt practices at elections. The Attorney-General opposed the bill on the ground that a measure of such public importance should originate with the Government. After debate the bill was thrown out by 44 to 28. Mr. Trow moved the second reading of the bill to amend chapter 12 of the statutes of Ontario entitled "An Act for the protection of game in the Province of Ontario"—which would have the effect of extending the time for shooting deer till the first of January. After some discussion the bill was read a second time and referred to a select committee. Mr. Cumberland moved the second reading of bill to establish municipal institutions in the district of Algoma. This was carried and, at the mover's request, it was

referred to the committee on assessments. Mr. Rykert moved the second reading of bill to amend the Act of the late Province of Canada intitled "An Act to secure to wives and children the benefit of assurances on the lives of their husbands and parents." This was carried and the bill referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Richards, Graham, Lauder, Lount and the mover. The drainage bill was read a second time, and the resolution appropriating \$260,000 for drainage purposes concurred in. The Toronto, Simcoe and Muskoka railway bill went through committee and was read a third time and passed. The Hon. Mr. Wood laid upon the table the Estimates for the forthcoming year, the amounts under the several heads being as follows:—Civil Government, \$120,970; Legislation, \$75,615; Colonization Roads, \$50,000; Administration of Justice, \$194,059; Public Works, Capital Account, \$698,521.81; Public Works, Miscellaneous, \$5,000; Asylum Maintenance, \$163,298; Reformatory, \$22,473; Agriculture and Arts, \$69,450; Immigration, \$24,700; Hospitals and Charities, \$42,510; Literary and Scientific Institutions, \$1,350; Education, \$337,475.43; Unforeseen and Unprovided, \$20,000; Miscellaneous, \$43,693.02; Municipalities Fund, \$78,972.84; Charges on Revenue, \$118,150; Total, \$2,066,233.10. The Drainage Act passed through committee. The bill providing an indemnity to members of \$450 for each session over thirty days, or \$6 a day for any shorter period, was read a third time and passed.

QUEBEC LEGISLATURE.—Mr. Hamilton (Bonaventure) moved for a committee to enquire into the administration of justice in the judicial district of Saguenay. He wished to say, in reference to his motion, that that district, which included about 500 miles of coast, possessed only one Magistrate, and that the administration was very bad. Carried. Mr. Bachand moved for an address to the Government, inquiring into the working of the Colonization and Emigration Societies during last year. Carried. Mr. Robertson moved the House into Committee of the Whole, to consider the resolution fixing the Speaker's salary, and members' indemnity, in accordance with the 32nd Vic., cap. 2. Mr. Chauveau said the Lieut.-Governor approved of the resolution. Mr. Joly moved to amend the resolution, making it read: "That indemnity to members be permanently fixed at \$450 per session." He said the Government, at last session, had taken upon themselves to raise the indemnity to \$600, urging that the work was expected to be labourious. This argument would not apply to this session. Mr. Chauveau said he did not see why the indemnity should be less this session than last. Although it was thought that it might be shorter, still no one knew how long it might be. If the Ministry were defeated on this motion, they certainly would not resign. Mr. Ogilvie said he thought \$450 was quite enough. He would a great deal rather see it nothing at all. Mr. Robertson said he hoped to see the question permanently settled. It was very indefinite to have the question coming up year after year. He felt that the finances of the country were able to pay \$600 to each member. He wanted to know if the services of the members who moved the amendment were not as valuable here as at Ottawa. He thought they were much more valuable here. Mr. Joly's amendment was lost; yeas, 23; nays, 32. The original motion was then put and carried. Mr. Bachand moved an address for copies of all correspondence between the Governments of Canada and Quebec, respecting the power claimed by the Government of the Dominion to disallow certain acts of the Local Legislatures, &c. Mr. Chauveau said the Government had received information that the Immunities and Privilege Bill had been disallowed by the Federal Government. The Government was still of opinion that they had the power to pass the Act in question. He used the same arguments as were used by the Premier of Ontario. Mr. Joly suggested an appeal to the Imperial Government. Mr. Cauchon said it might ultimately be necessary to appeal to the Imperial Parliament, but as there were several points in dispute, he thought it better to appeal all at once. The motion was put and carried.

METALLIM—A VALUABLE INVENTION.—Certain scientific and practical gentlemen interested in manufacturing and other machinery in New York, have for some months been testing an invention which has for its object the supercendence of all lubricating agents in machinery where metallic friction is to be overcome. The exact nature of the invention is not made public, but it is understood to be a combination of metals or substances, which it is claimed will do away with much of the friction that exists even in well lubricated machinery. The experiments show that the use of "metallim," as it is called, precludes the possibility of danger from heated bearings, and that it enables machinery to run with less friction than any other device that has ever been introduced. If all that is claimed for it is true, "metallim" will prove one of the greatest discoveries of the age. All those accidents arising from heated bearings, in the shape of railway disasters, fires from spontaneous combustion, etc., etc., will be avoided. In the silk, cotton and woollen mills, the use of oil not only subjects the manufacturer to great losses in goods spoiled by it, while the expense of constantly watching it, and extra hazardous insurance, adds seriously to the outlay of the manufacturer. Besides these advantages, it should prove of great advantage in the finer sorts of machinery, as the movements of watches, where it is difficult to find an oil of sufficient fineness to answer the purposes of lubrication, without at times clogging or choking the bearings with gum, or partially solidified oil and dust.

MUFFLING THE THROAT.—What is the best mode of protecting the throat from colds where a person is very susceptible to them? The common way of protecting the throat is to bundle and wrap it up closely, thus overheating and rendering it sensitive, and more liable to colds and inflammation than before. This practice is all wrong, and results in much evil. Especially is this the case with children, and when, in addition to muffling of the throat the extremities are insufficiently clad, as is often the case, the best possible conditions are presented for the production of sore throats, coughs, croup, and all kinds of throat affections. If the neck is overheated a portion of the time, when it is exposed some form of disarrangement of the throat will be apt to occur. The rule in regard to clothing the neck should be to keep it as cool as comfort will allow. In doing so you will suffer much less from throat ailment than if you are always fearful of having a little cold air come in contact with your neck. Anyone who has been accustomed to have his throat muffled should be careful to leave off gradually, and not all at once.—Herald of Health.