

DESTITUTE SYRIANS.

Still on Board the S.S. Louisiana
at Montreal.

Messrs. Powderly and Taylor Dis-
cuss Immigration Matters—Death
of Mr. Geo. Martin.

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)

Montreal, Aug. 9.—Messrs. Powderly, Commissioner-General of the United States Immigration Bureau, and Taylor, Assistant Secretary of the United States Treasury Department, arrived in town this morning. They had a conference with representatives of the railway and steamship companies upon the subject of immigration to the United States by way of Canadian ports. The United States representatives were assured that the Canadian regulations with regard to the admission of immigrants were quite as stringent and as strictly enforced as those of the United States, and no person likely to become a burden upon the State is allowed to land, while the railway and steamship companies are obliged to give satisfactory assurance of the return of rejected immigrants. The United States representatives left at 1 o'clock for Malone, N.Y., the private car Earnscliffe being placed at their disposal. They will probably pay a visit to Quebec later before reporting the result of their investigations. Mr. Powderly is in favor of establishing inspection points where the great railway lines cross the border. Such points would have to be chosen impartially and without any desire of favoring one company more than another. Their establishment, Mr. Powderly believes, would greatly facilitate the proper examination of all aspirants to United States citizenship.

The death took place at his residence, 181 Laval avenue, at 9.30 this morning, of Mr. George Martin, one of Montreal's oldest citizens, and a Canadian poet of considerable repute. The cause of Mr. Martin's death was a paralytic stroke, with which he was seized on July 4th last. His chief work, "Marguerite, or the Isle of Demons," published in 1887, met with a very cordial reception throughout the Dominion. It was published in a work entitled "Marguerite and Other Poems." "Hallowe'en in Canada," "Jack Frost's Happy Dream," "Heroes of Ville Marie," "Peter Whimble's Courtship" are the titles of some of his other works.

There are 21 destitute Syrians, out of a batch of 81 brought out by the French Line steamship Louisiana, now waiting on board for permission to land on Canadian soil. The only thing that prevents them is the immigration agents, who find that the foreigners have no money and no means of immediate support, so that until they get work they would be a charge on the community if the agents allowed them to land. Mr. A. Poindron, the agent of the Franco-Canadienne line of steamships, held a consultation with a number of prominent Syrians here to try and come to some arrangement which would allow them to be landed. So far such efforts have not been successful. The Franco-Canadienne Company has served a notarial protest on the Government, claiming that the immigrants should not be kept on board their ship. The new law regarding pauper immigrants, they claim, came into effect only a couple of weeks ago, and the Syrians were booked for Canada at that time and were aboard the ship. The company did not know the law requiring each immigrant to have the sum of twenty-five dollars was to be enforced immediately, or, in fact, that it existed at all, until after the voyage had been begun.