

route can be found which will lead more directly to the proposed end, I thought it advisable to cross the Place D'Armes diagonally, so as to keep the post in the centre on my left, and at last arrived at that part of Notre Dame Street opposite the well known and commodious premises of Mr. Muloon. Here I found the number of passers unusually large; but was mortified, on arriving at the corner of Saint François Xavier Street, to find that the respectable looking blind man that usually appeals with all the silent eloquence of sorrow to the benevolence of his fellow-men, was not to be found. I confess my disappointment at this unlooked-for occurrence; for although the practice of indiscriminate exposure of suffering humanity on the public streets, with a view of attracting attention and succour, cannot be defended on any broad and comprehensive view of public economy; nay, although convinced, on the whole, of its deleterious effect, I had resolved that on this occasion, when the flood-gates of feeling are set wide open to the flow of generous sympathy, the little I could spare to the unfortunate poor should be shared by the individual alluded to. But he was not to be found; and the melancholy thought at once occurred to me, as I drew on my fur glove, which had been removed to give effect to my intended bounty, that in a few short years those who now figured in all the luxury of brilliant equipages, liveried servants, and establishments on a large scale, would pass away, and their places be filled up by others, who perhaps will scarce bestow more of thought or regret upon their memory or their departure, than did I on the blind beggar on the morning of that joyous day. I trust, however, that my mind is too well regulated to allow gloomy thoughts to interfere with settled plans of duty, and with engagements previously formed with my fellow-men; and so, quickening my pace, but with a mind somewhat saddened by reflections on the changes incident to our condition, I proceeded on the side-walk to McGill Street, towards the lodgings of my friend.

At the corner of the last mentioned street, where I stopped only for an instant to admit a baker's cart to pass, I was accosted by the crowd of carters usually collected near that locality. "Sleigh, sir?" "Do you want a sleigh, gentleman?" "I have a good horse, good buffaloes." "Here's mine, sir! Carry you cheap!" "His'n isn't good. Look at this one, sir!" Although I was not in need of the kind attentions of any of the individuals who addressed me, and whose arduous occupation exposes them both to the rage of the elements and of those who have little disposition to pay a fair remuneration for

the transportation of themselves and their luggage from one locality to another, I yet gave them a courteous answer, informing them that my friend had already, as I hoped, engaged a vehicle; but that if he had not done so, and we passed that way, I would be glad to secure the services of some of them, and of their horse or mare, as the case might be, (including, of course, the sleigh and robes,) on terms which I trusted would be mutually advantageous to both parties, and endeavoured to explain, that the true principles of generous competition and rivalry did not, in my opinion, demand quite so ostentatious an offer of their services, or any unjust depreciation of the horses of their fellows, who, like them, depended for their subsistence on the public favour. I am pleased to think that my remarks made some impression on the crowd I addressed; for one of them, whom I supposed to be an Irishman, with the frankness of his countrymen, called out, "All right, my covey!" a Canadian crying out, as I departed, "*Bon jour, monsieur, au revoir!*"

It is by such little incidents as these that the bonds of good feeling and mutual sympathy may be wonderfully strengthened among all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, without distinction of creed or origin; nor should any man of proper feeling be ashamed of his endeavour to diffuse, even among the poorest and humblest in society, some correct ideas of their duty, and of their interests, as forming a part of the great body politic.

On arriving at my friend's lodgings I observed what is usually called a tandem sleigh at the door, which in other words consists of a common sleigh with a horse called the leader in front of the animal hitched on the shafts, the traces of the leader being generally attached to a hook under each shaft. In the present instance I noticed that the fastening was by means of a bolt passing through a hole near the end of the shaft, the bolt being itself strapped to the shaft by means of a leather thong, so as to prevent it leaving its place and exposing the traveller to accident. With no little interest I observed that the leader was grey, apparently a stout serviceable animal, whose front legs however did exhibit some signs of that peculiar curvature outwards, which among farriers marks the "foundered horse," as it is termed. I inwardly hoped that this "turn-out," to use a common phrase, was not that engaged by my friend, for I have uniformly acted in conformity with the rule, in all cases where it could be done without great inconvenience, to employ only those horses whose general appearance, when in a state of repose,