

Europe, tazzi, marbles, sculpture in lava or alabaster, miniature copies of the eternal Sibyl and Cenei, Raphael's Vatican" such things "as are seldom found so far inland, but *cosa altra piu cara* or at least *piu rare*."

Such examples of European tastes and habits were, however, few in number and contrasted strangely with the common characteristics of the Canadian settlements, the humble log huts of the poor immigrant, struggling with axe and hoe amid the stumps to make a home for his family. Year by year the sunlight was let into the dense forests, and fertile meadows soon stretched far and wide in the once untrodden wilderness. Despite all the difficulties of a pioneer's life, industry reaped its adequate rewards in the fruitful lands of the west. Bread was easily raised in abundance and animals of all kinds thrived. In the winter season, when there was relief from the engrossing demands of summer toil, and the snow covered, frozen soil gave opportunities for social intercourse, the people of the rural districts found amusement in "husking" parties, barn raisings, threshing bees, and other gatherings which combined business and gaiety. Unhappily the great bane of the province was the inordinate use of liquor. Wretched inns, generally kept by a greedy, illiterate class of Americans, were too common in the villages and at the cross-roads. "The erection of a church or chapel," says Mrs. Jameson, "generally preceded that of a school-house in Upper Canada, but the mill and the tavern invariably preceded both." The accommodation for travellers was very inferior outside of the large towns where some half-pay officer, or enterprising settler—generally Scotch—condescended to add to their income by taking in guests. When wheat, however, was high, the temporary inn was closed, and the traveller had to go to the general inn—generally in the sparsely settled districts—"a rude log hut, with one window and one room, answering all purposes, a lodging or sleeping place, divided off at one end by a few planks, outside a shed of bark and boughs for the horses, and a hollow trunk of a tree disposed as a trough." At one of the highland settlements Mrs. Jameson rested at "Campbell's Inn," which consisted of a log hut and a cattle shed. A long pole stuck into the decayed stump of a tree in front of the hut, served as the sign." With some difficulty the traveller "procured some milk and Indian corn-cakes. The family despite their wretched appearance, might be considered prosperous, as they had a property of two hundred acres of excellent land, of which sixty acres were cleared and in cultivation, five cows and fifty sheep." These people had come out destitute, and had won what was to them comfort in sixteen years, and their condition was that of thousands from Cape Breton to Sandwich. Between the humble emigrants, and the agricultural nobles