

California by the Sierra Nevada; and here they are building their Cities of the Plain. Their position—an entrepôt, midway on the overland route to California—must of itself ensure importance. Already they have a place on the map, and are striving after higher honours. They form the nucleus of the new dominion of Utah, this year erected into an independent territory of the Great Republic, 'and placed by the President under the orders of Governor Young, Chief of this Sect.'—(*Cunynghame*, p. 134.) This Utah, all reporters agree, is likely, in the very next session of Congress, to be elevated to the dignity of a sovereign State. 'So rapidly (says Mr. Johnston) has persecution helped on this offspring of ignorance, and tended to give a permanent establishment, and a bright future, to a system not simply of pure invention, but of blasphemous impiety and folly the most insane.' The strange sight will soon be seen of Mormon deputies at Washington, shaming Christendom with their retinue of women. What will the proud fair of the Western States say then? Unless the wild Missourians remember their old grudge, and intercept the polygamous cavalcade by their favourite tar-and-feathers, there is no help for it. Each State can make what social laws it pleases, and these laws must be tolerated throughout the rest of the Union; so that the Utah deputies may parade their harem through the streets of Washington, 'none daring to make them afraid;' and may recover a runaway wife (if they think it worth while), by means of the public authorities, in the same way as if she were a fugitive slave.

To return to our own provinces—Mr. Johnston's remarks upon the present condition of the descendants of the original French settlers in Lower Canada and New Brunswick, though scattered over different parts of his work, are worth collating from their clearness and discrimination. In language, habits, feelings, and religion, they are little changed since the day when Wolf won Quebec—except that, according to all calm witnesses, time has softened the animosity of the vanquished to their conquerors. Inhabiting a pre-eminently healthy country, where there is not an ague even among the forests and marshes, and possessed of that cheerful *insouciance* so favourable to the vital functions, they marry early and multiply rapidly. At Kamouraska Mr. Johnston stopped to get a fresh horse and carriage, and on starting (doubtless knowing a Frenchman's foible), expressed to the new *cocher* his admiration of his pretty young wife, and inquired her age. 'One-and-twenty.' 'And how long have you been married?' 'Six years—and she was a widow when I married her.' Fourteen and fifteen is a common age for the marriage of females, and eighteen for males, on the shores of the St. Lawrence. And the women continue prolific to a comparatively