

mate contact with the common people. In truth, we have abundant evidence to show that the relation of the seigneur to his people was much more intimate in these early settlements of Canada than in the mother country.

"After the conquest (1760), nearly all the nobles fled the country, and the different classes of society were more thoroughly mixed than they had ever been before. The influence of long and constant contact with a Teutonic race has had the effect to temper the rash impulses of the Gaul; and this is in no respect more marked than in his speech, where a quiet monotony largely prevails, and strikes the stranger immediately as one of its leading characteristics. It has not the rhythm, the inexhaustible variety, and rich cadence of the Gallic tongue as it is spoken to-day in France."

Alongside of this statement we place a clipping from a contribution to the Toronto *'Varsity* in which the author deals with his subject in an able manner and advises teachers of French in our schools to take a summer's training or course in a well-educated family of Quebec.

"Let us now see what is to be learned from this analysis of Canadian-French: and the reader will please bear in mind that it is mainly the language of the uneducated *habitant* that I have to deal with here, and not that of the educated Quebecker, who speaks as pure a French, in every respect, as the best of France; though a fastidious Parisian might occasionally detect the slightest difference in the pronunciation of *oir*, *ai* (s) and *ait*. In examining the vocabulary we found that a very large proportion of the new and adapted words were natural growths—not only natural but necessary. Those that are really useless and barbarous are in most cases so easily recognizable that nobody has the least difficulty in avoiding them if he chooses to do so. The idiom, again,—the vital part of language—is pure, even among the least educated. The pronunciation, while presenting all the peculiarities I have mentioned—though certainly not all in the same locality—is just as truly French as can be found anywhere in France. The peculiarities of pronunciation which