

ment have greatly impeded my deliberations on the present subject, but as expedition may be wished and expected, I shall state my Answers concisely, but I hope with a degree of precision.

“ *Question 1.*—Upon what Tenures were the Lands of this Country granted by the French Crown?

The Civil Constitution of Canada was Established upon the Feudal System; large Tracts of Land were granted by the French Crown *en Fief et Seigneurie*, these Estates are stiled *Biens Nobles*; small parcels and Town Lots were granted by an Ignoble Tenure, called *Roture*.

There are some, a very few, allodial grants, the Tenure is termed *Franc Aieu Noble* and *Franc Aieu Roturier*: a fewer still by that Tenure which is of a spiritual nature called *Pure Aumone*, or Frankalmoign.

“ *Question 2.*—What kind of Tenure was most prevalent and what may be stated in probable conjecture for the proportion between them?

In the Country, the Tenure *en Fief et Seigneurie* were almost universal. In the Town of Quebec, several small parcels were granted upon the same Tenure; and there, as well as at Three Rivers and adjoining to the Forts of Crown Point, Detroit &c. small parcels or lots were granted *en Roture*.

The proportion in favor of Fiefs and Seigneuries (alluding to the Royal Grants) is beyond comparison greater than all the other *Tenures*.

“ *Question 3.*—What securities had the French Crown by the Law of the Country, or the Nature and Tenor of the grants, to compel or promote the Cultivation and improvement of the land granted?