

Chap. possessed at the time of the conquest, that is,
 xxiii. in all particulars, french."

1822. "Without a union",—it was said,—“this population must retain its present ascendancy in the government of the country, and will not of course, of its own accord, cease to be french.—Its progressive increase under the fostering protection of Great Britain, will, therefore, necessarily lead to a result, which, without a union, is anticipated.” They added that they “could not omit to notice that the unreasonable extent of political rights which had been conceded to this population, to the prejudice of their fellow subjects of british origin, together with a sense of their growing strength, has already had the effect of realising, in the imagination of many of them, their fancied existence as a separate nation, under the name of the “*nation canadienne*,” implying pretensions not more irreconcilable with the rights of their fellow subjects, than with a just subordination to the parent state.” They therefore “respectfully submitted, whether a system of government which had had such effects, and which in its ulterior consequences must expose Great Britain to the mortification and disgrace of having, at immense expense, reared to the maturity of independence, a foreign conquered colony, to become the ally of a foreign nation, and the scourge of its native subjects and their dependants, ought to be persisted in.”

Almost every township and settlement, as well as the cities and towns, in which there