

have more of the sedateness and perhaps more of the rough but solid capacity of the British character; in the one you have the relation of the executive to the country constantly involving political difficulty and danger, in the other order is established on a footing as secure as the throne of Great Britain. The difference is remarkable. You notice it as soon as you have passed the line. It runs through all society, and it modifies every relation of life.

Another remarkable feature of these new communities is the freedom and elasticity of their politics, their legislation, and even their administration. To begin with the latter, it would probably strike an English official aghast to visit Ottawa and view the Ministry and officials in harness. There is red-tape in Canada, as there is I suppose in every official community, but they manage to run very little of it off the reel. The office of the Premier is protected from the public by a small ante-room, where the messengers intercept visitors of every class and station, who come on the smallest occasions for a personal interview. If it is a matter which can be settled by a few words to another Minister he will put on his hat and accompany his visitor to that Minister's room. Notes or memoranda save many despatches, and instead of posting acres of correspondence about the public buildings the Minister will make a call or send a message. But this accessibility and freedom, according to my observation, is essentially different from that of the United States. It is not based on the "I'm-as-good-as-you" and "you're-my-servant" principle, which draws out of American society that best and stiffest fibre of all society, the recognition of relative rights; but it is the curtness, the facility of business men, who always in their bluntest moments strive to make it understood that they rest upon the amenities of life. When you get a Canadian imbued with the Yankee notions of equality you get what Artemus Ward would term the "cussedest of cusses;" but, thank God, such creatures are the exception in Canadian experience.