

out." The slang in vogue in the mining districts is as expressive as it is original; "guessing," and "calculating" are exercises of perpetual occurrence. If one has the best of a bargain, he is said to have got "the dead wood" on the other party in the transaction. A mean and greedy man is "on the make;" where a claim is to be disposed of, the proprietor is "on the sell;" if he be hard up, he wants to "make a raise;" and if he be tricky—looking two ways at once—he is "on the fence." A conceited man thinks himself "some pumpkins," and when any statement is made, the truth of which is doubted, it is a "tall story." When a "claim" disappoints the hopes of the proprietors, it has "fizzled out." Credit is "jawbone," or as it is otherwise expressed, "shooting off the face." Deceit in business is "shananigan." When one has run off to elude his creditors, he has "vamoosed the ranch." British Columbia, from its extremely western position, is called "the jumping off place." The issue that seems likely to arise from a given course of events is "sticking out." Two parties playing into each other's hands for their mutual advantage are "log-rolling."

It may be imagined that in a country where so many are governed by impulse, and often rendered desperate by losses in speculation, cases of highway robbery and murder should sometimes occur. But the proportion of crime at present is decidedly small, considering the character and number of the population.

In this brief review of the colonies it is not intended to urge at so early a period of their existence, the *indiscriminate* emigration of either capitalists or artisans. Men of bold heart and strong nerve will carve their way anywhere, through difficulties that might appear insurmountable to persons less distinguished for *stamina*. But those destitute of indomitable energy and patience, especially if their exchequer be limited, are counselled to seek their fortune in an older and less exciting sphere. But there can be no doubt that the country offers powerful inducements to farmers, agricultural labourers, and female servants. Wages range four or five times higher than in England. Army and Navy officers and other gentlemen having a few thousand pounds at command, would find life there peculiarly enjoyable. Interest at the rate of one and a half and two per cent. *per month* may easily be obtained for loans on fair security. Most of the conveniences and even the luxuries of the parent country are to be had without difficulty. The climate is highly invigorating, especially to constitutions debilitated by residence in tropical latitudes; the scenery is exceedingly beautiful, and there is no lack of pleasant society.

ART. VIII.—THE FOREST OF FONTAINEBLEAU.

1. *L'Indicateur de Fontainebleau. Visite du Palais et de la Forêt.* Par C. F. DENECOURT. Fontainebleau.

2. *L'Indicateur Historique et Descriptif de Fontainebleau, son Palais, sa Forêt, et ses Environs.* Par C. F. DENECOURT. Fontainebleau.

3. *Le Palais et la Forêt de Fontainebleau. Guide Historique et Descriptif, suivi d'un aperçu d'Histoire Naturelle de la Forêt.* Par C. F. DENECOURT. Fontainebleau.

4. *Complément des Guides de Fontainebleau.* Par C. F. DENECOURT. Fontainebleau.

AMONGST the minor differences between the English and French character, none is better marked than the way in which each shows its love of Nature. The home-keeping quality of the French mind, and the English spirit of adventure, are amongst the great distinctions between the two nations. And this last has affected not only their destinies, but the destiny of the world. The results of English colonization are everywhere felt. In India and Australia, and the gigantic Republic of the West, English habits of thought, English love of freedom, English speech, are dominant. Of this we are not going to speak, but of that love of scenery, which is a minor form of that spirit of adventure. No two people travel with such different ideas. To the English, travelling is a pastime, to the French a labour. An Englishwoman takes a portmanteau with her, a Frenchwoman a wardrobe. An Englishwoman travels to see, a Frenchwoman to be seen. So with the men. A Frenchman puts on his best clothes for an excursion in the country, an Englishman his worst. With the former the dress makes the pedestrian. And a Panama hat on the head is supposed to add strength to the feet.

And each, too, looks on nature with very different eyes. The French garden and the English garden well represent the difference. A pair of compasses is the Frenchman's gardener. By the help of the shears he has developed a series of cabbage-headed shrubs, and a species of vegetable mop. He shaves the tops of his poplars as he does the tails of his poodles. He clips his limes into arbores. For a pole covered with flags is his idea of a tree. Everything, too, must be uniform. And so he puts fig-leaves on nature to cover such indecencies as rocks and thickets. What an English garden is, let the reader turn to Milton's description of Paradise. Here is—

"not nice art
In beds and curious knots, but Nature boon
Poured forth profuse on hill and dale and plain."

So also in life. The Frenchwoman prefers the smell of pastiles, the Englishwoman the scent of fir-woods after rain. The Frenchman loves his ice in the *café*, the Englishman his glacier on the Matterhorn.

We do not deny that there are great exceptions. We have seen people in England stare at a fine tree, as if it were a kind of wild beast. Englishmen, too, are undoubtedly selfish. If an Englishman had an echo in his garden, he would probably wish to keep it all to himself; but a Frenchman would certainly want to bring it to Paris. Be the causes, however,

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