

oots, herbs, &c., gathered in
 of the rich but abused plain,
 's bank to the horizon, except
 distant and imposing isolated
 a batteau, you hear the boat
 h there is little sweetness or
 g along the low shore of the
 five or six churches, with the
 ne towers of the new cathedral,
 treal, which alone rescues the
 Those who wish to contem-
 barbarous architecture in North
 ay visit the cathedral.
 r the introduction of the Gothic
 s? What is there among us
 What is there connected with
 ons; and what good influence
 on the future? We have had
 ess of taste through many ages,
 men in different stages of civil-
 ur history at all allied to such a
 r condition is based on the foun-
 edge: there is no mystery, no
 othing is concealed, nothing is
 nposture. Neither do we admit
 the feelings are to be influenced
 yment. Why then should we
 ecture, in which vastness and
 pon the heart, without offering to
 ject to fasten upon; in which the
 ses which they cannot penetrate,
 d devices and ornaments the mind
 Simplicity and use, two of the
 works, are banished hence; the
 vere formed is obscured; and the
 reation mystified, as far as archi-
 ce such an effect.
 in this country, to present vast
 it can trace none of the great prin-

ciples of natural taste; in which the mind finds only per-
 plexity; and the feelings, instead of being exalted with hope
 and encouragement, are depressed with undefined gloom.
 How far more appropriate are the pure and chaste Greek
 styles to our own history, character, and condition! I would
 take the Doric and Ionic in preference to the Corinthian:
 and, if I may judge from my own feelings, the first-men-
 tioned is to be preferred to all others. Regard the ancient
 rules and proportions so far as they are appropriate to the
 uses of our public edifices, and consistent with the nature
 of our climate; and then the more vigorously you cultivate
 taste and multiply specimens in cities, towns, villages, and
 the very forests where they may be needed, the better. In
 America there is no apology for a gradual introduction of
 any species of perfection which necessity does not forbid
 us to know at once. We must admit only the best of every
 thing. Where the forest tree falls, there let taste erect her
 purest monuments, while learning adopts the best methods
 for instruction, and philanthropy binds heart to heart with
 the love of the gospel: for liberty has established a system
 which requires the most powerful support of us all, and
 we are answerable to mankind for an exhibition of the no-
 blest results of civilization and Christianity.

One of the unaccountable traits of the taste of our coun-
 trymen, is displayed by many of them on entering a Cana-
 dian town. They will take off their children to the nunne-
 ries, obtain, if possible, an interview with the superieures,
 purchase a few trifles of domestic manufacture, infer from
 what they see that all must be well arranged and systematic
 in every department, because they spend a few minutes in
 the presence of stiff and starched nuns, and go away with
 a gratuitous impression that there is a great deal of solid in-
 struction given to the children and young persons whom
 they profess to teach.