

the disadvantage of Ontario, cannot overthrow this statement ; for the falsity of the returns cannot be hidden from any one who knows the facts. As the French language spreads in Canada, Canada must more and more come under the influence of the Roman Church, and be moulded to the character it fosters.

Compare, then, with it the genius and tendencies of the English tongue. English has its disadvantages. It is less musical than some other languages. It is offensively sibilant. It lacks, as Dr. Charles Mackay, in his "Lost Beauties of the English Language," has shown, the sonorous predominance of vowels of which the Scottish dialect, by its abbreviations, is capable, and the almost Italian sweetness of Scottish diminutives. Guizot is justified in saying that English is not rationally, uniformly and systematically constructed ; and it cannot, therefore, train to such a love for the mere surface-beauties of logical consistency as makes the Frenchman forget the practical consequences of his airy theories, and the hidden fallacies of his beautifully-stated premises. The English language compels the Englishman to be practical, even at the cost of apparent logical consistency. It is rich and flexible, as Guizot acknowledges. In its foundation it is Teutonic, and trains, as Madame de Staël admits, to Teutonic strength of individualism and reason, without giving to these features an exclusive prominence. By its Latin and Norman elements it demands appeal to authority, and thus counterbalances the individualizing and rationalizing Saxon elements. Its vocabulary, absorbing into itself new terms from every quarter, is adapted to every kind of human employment. In the mouth of an orator, it can express either the most tender and pathetic descriptions and appeals, or the fiercest and sternest denunciations. By its combination of Saxon monosyllables and flowing dignified words of Latin derivation it can round its periods with most mellifluous rhythm. By its well-marked accentuation, its power of inversion, and its capabilities of rhyme, it is adapted to the finest poetry. Even in verses