

people live very economically, and extravagance in dress is rather the exception. On gala days the young wear many ribbons and colours, though arranged with little of the taste characteristic of the French people. Both old and young are very sociable in their habits, and love music and dancing. The violin is constantly played in the smallest village, and the young people dance cotillons or *danses rondes*. The priests, however, do not encourage reckless gaieties or extravagance in dress. Now and then the Bishop issues a pastoral in which the waltz and other fast dances, and certain fashionable modes of dress, are expressly forbidden, and though his mandates are no doubt soon forgotten in the cities and towns, they are on the whole religiously observed in the rural communities. The feasts of the Church are kept with great zeal, and consequently the French Canadian has holidays without number. It is an interesting scene to witness 'a first communion' ^{in a village} ~~in a village~~; the young girls are invariably dressed in white garments and veils, and the humblest, poorest family would think it very hard if they could not make a show on this occasion.

No class of the population of Canada is more orderly or less disposed to crime than the French Canadian. Indeed, if we compare the statistics of crime in the province of Quebec with those in the large province of Ontario, the comparison is in favour of the former. On referring to a Blue Book issued a year or two ago by the Government of Canada, we find that in 1882, there were about 18,000 persons convicted of various crimes and offences in the latter province out of a total population of 2,000,000 souls, while in Quebec the number did not exceed 6000 out of a population of 1,400,000; and when we come to analyse the returns we see that the aggregate of crime was in the cities of Montreal and Quebec, where there is a criminal class made up of all nationalities. As a rule the people are temperate in their habits, and in corroboration of this statement I may again refer to the authority just cited, from which it appears that in 1882 the cases of drunkenness in the Ontario courts were nearly 9000 as against 3000 in Quebec, and of the latter Quebec and Montreal absorbed nearly 2500. The temperate habits of the French Canadian make them necessarily valuable employees in

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