

Canada half a dozen Protestant denominations in a village will each have a church, whereas in Lower Canada the people being nearly all Catholics in the country parts, require only one place of worship, which is generally a large and handsome building.

LITERATURE, &c.

The literary institutions of Canada might well claim attention, but must be dispatched in a few words. The principal cities have natural history societies, astronomical clubs, lyceums, public libraries, mercantile library associations, and mechanics' institutes. There are reading-rooms attached to all of these institutions, where papers from every part of the country and the chief cities of the United States, from Great Britain and France, are received. Montreal alone has about ten such institutions. In connexion with these also, there are generally lecture rooms, where, in winter, literary, historical, and scientific discourses are delivered to the members by eminent scholars and professional men, who render these services gratuitously. Many villages emulate the cities and towns in these respects, and it may truly be said, that in Canada "the school-master is abroad."

Of amusements and sports, Canada has also its fair share. Every city has its theatre, and often several spacious assembly rooms, where balls, parties, and public dinners take place. Cricketing is a favorite sport in summer, and is eagerly pursued. In winter the Scotch game of curling is much practised, and many a supper of beef and greens, not to speak of the etceteras, is lost and won. Shooting clubs are also in fashion; and, whether for good or evil, I fear however more for evil than good, we have ball-alleys, billiard-rooms, and not a few gambling-houses.

Our newspapers we count by scores, if not by hundreds. The chief cities have several large dailies, tri-weeklies, bi-weeklies, and weeklies. Montreal publishes about twenty newspapers, and every town and village in Upper Canada has its own press; generally, indeed, two papers are issued in each place, for, as Canadians are all politicians, every ministerial paper must needs have an opponent. In periodical literature we have not yet made much progress, not more than half a dozen magazines being published in the country.

In connection with this subject it may not be out of place to notice the postal advantages of Canada, which, under the able management of the Hon. Robert Spence, the present Postmaster General, have greatly improved. In 1851 the Imperial Government transferred the management of the Canadian post-office to the local government. Then there were 601 post-offices in the country, and the single letter postage was 9d. The rate was immediately reduced to 3d., at which it stands, and the number of letters carried next year rose from 2,000,000 to 3,500,000. At present there are over 1300 post-offices, and