

imitation of the habits and language of the stable and the kitchen; and so wonderfully correct is the imitation that you would think it had been "all in all their study." Here colonels usurp the driver's place on the box, and captains and lieutenants exclude grooms and guards, whilst the originals stand grinning in the street at the rapid metamorphosis. You are surprised by a fashionable beau in the costume of a jockey, and a stranger would wonder at the familiarity with which the gentle *Belles* talk to those who seem well dressed servants, and who have the well known vulgar airs of one who is a *Dun* and a clerk. Whilst fingering the ribbons, (I descend to what they themselves call slang,) they drop the reins of government over their own conduct, and in proportion as they guide their horses with the perfect art of a coachman, they display equal deficiency in the manners of a gentleman. This mania goes so far with some as to make them forget all serious business, and to exclude all rational amusement; and it has been observed of one that if he had bestowed half the attention to the law, which he did to the *marshalling* of his horses, he would be an honour to himself, and the state would have an useful instead of an inattentive officer. Another peculiarity in the society of Quebec is the decided lead which the sons of Mars are allowed to take, for without a red coat no one can hope to succeed, and indeed its influence is so great that one is apt to think the fair are here all true descendants of the goddess of Cythera, from the attachment they shew to the gallant youths of war. But courage, the common attribute of a soldier, is not so much esteemed as the "swashing and martial outside." I have now under my eye a noisy, boisterous, soldier, who is here of great resort and good repute, and, who