

stration. In 1763 his Majesty was pleased to give it civil government, as nearly as might be on the footing of English law. This was at first received with some disgust; the Canadians knew nothing of English law, and were attached to those laws they had been long governed by; but the British subjects, of whom many had by this time settled in Canada, assured them, they would soon feel the difference, and alter their opinion; so it proved, in a very few years Canada, instead of importing its own bread, as it had done during the French government, counted its export of wheat by the hundred thousand bushels; and the Canadian peasants, instead of an inconsiderable sum of depreciated paper currency, or perhaps none, came to be possessors of no inconsiderable hoard of silver money; these effects they attributed justly to the operation of the freedom and protection of the English law over their industry, and their attachment and love to the government were daily growing stronger; the Seigneurs indeed, ~~who~~, although under the English law, <sup>they</sup> retained all their seigneurial rights, were not so well satisfied: they had not altogether the same importance, or respect, as in French times; though generally worthy and deserving men, they have much of their origin, and are better courtiers than Englishmen commonly are; it is therefore no great wonder, if they infused their own notions into the person