

the agreeable task of felling a few acres of forest trees, will find himself compelled to sell his improvements to a less soaring nature at a ruinous loss, and will probably end his practical essay on emigration in a fit of *delirium tremens* induced by Canadian whisky. I have known several specimens of young gentlemen who, being unsuccessful at home, were considered by their parents and guardians as eminently likely to succeed in Canada, and who finding farming difficult, took to drink instead. If English Chartist leaders, instead of urging their hearers to demand political rights and a slip of Dartmoor Common, were to take into consideration the fact that men of thews and sinews are at a high premium in the colonies—that by going out to those colonies they may secure high wages and abundance of the luxuries of life—if they would understand that the command of two meat meals a-day is of more importance to them and their families than universal suffrage, and were to agitate for a free passage across the seas, instead of for the establishment of a Utopia at home,—they would do the State good service.

An English mechanic is a good-natured and at heart an orderly fellow. He would work if he could; and as work is plentiful and hands are wanting in Canada, he would both secure independence for himself by going there, and benefit those who remain by displacing the oppressed pressure of the labour market.

The difference between the advanced notions of the Upper Canadian farmer and the conservative prejudices of the more remote districts of Lower Canada is very striking. The Habitant, as the Upper Canadian is called, has all the virtues and most of the prejudices of a very primitive state of society. In this he differs from the cosmopolitan settler of the West, who has no prejudices whatever. The feudal, or seigniorial tenure under which the greater part of the Lower Canadian lands have been held till very lately, the provisions of which seemed framed for the one object of rendering the acquisition of property almost impossible, contributed much,

no doubt, to this state of things. The tenure of land is encumbered with conditions whose very names are unknown in our laws, though even they are not too straightforward. A Tenancier, or Censitaire, under the old French law, besides a small rent, would probably pay his landlord in addition, a pig, or a goose, or a fowl, or a bushel of wheat. The *droit de banalité* conferred on the seigneur the right to a fourteenth part of the tenant's corn, under the name of *mouture*, or grinding dues. The *lods et ventes* gave him one-twelfth of the purchase-money of every estate within his seigniority which changed hands by sale. The whole seigniorial tenure has been lately done away with, and lands can be held in fee simple in the same way as in Upper Canada, and be as easily acquired. A move in that direction was made somewhere about the year 1790, by introducing the free and common socage tenure, but this has never been popular among the conservative Habitans, who cling with tenacity to the patriarchal rule of their ancestors. Doubtless the repeal of the seigniorial rights will effect a revolution in the quiet, and it must be confessed comparatively backward, agricultural inhabitants of the Lower Province.

The native politeness of even the poorest among the French population, and the truly French grace and freedom from awkwardness with which their hospitality is dispensed, have been remarked by all who come in contact with them. The subdivision of property among all the children which takes place on the death of a parent, and the demarcation of the new boundaries so as to give every sharer an equal frontage on the highway or an equal portion of the wood or water behind, give a curious appearance to some of the villages; they are not clustered together, but extend, with a few yards' interval between every house, for miles, and a long narrow field stretches out behind the house, perhaps a mile long and thirty yards wide. Standing on the citadel at Quebec and looking towards Montmorenci, the whole road — some thirteen miles — is