

old-fashioned Joe and Spanish milled dollar ; we needed none. We were not rich, but we were emphatically a prosperous people ; perfect contentment reigned throughout the land.

But now came pride. History is full of instruction as to the evils always attendant upon the introduction of wealth and pride into a poor country. After the late war, great numbers of the officers and other old-country gentlemen remained here. These having been accustomed to live like gentlemen in the old country, very naturally continued their old habits and customs in Canada ; and making purchase and dispersing themselves throughout the various districts, the whole population has from that time to the present imbibed a propensity to extravagance in living, which has led to our present commercial embarrassment. The old-fashioned home-made cloth has given way to the fine broadcloth coat ; the linsey-woolsey dresses of females have disappeared, and English and French silks substituted ; the nice clean-scoured floors of the farmers' houses have been covered by Brussels carpets ; the spinning-wheel and loom have been superseded by the piano ; and, in short, a complete revolution in all our domestic habits and manners has taken place—the consequences of which are, the accumulation of an enormous debt upon our shoulders, and its natural concomitant, political strife ; for who has ever heard of an embarrassed community being a peaceable one ? The old aphorism, “when poverty comes in at the door, love flies out at the window,” has as much force in our social constitution as in our domestic concerns.

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— The first coin or token of Canadian Home Manufacture, is the very coarsely executed but scarce and interesting politico-satirical token, commonly known as the Vexator Canadensis, issued in 1811.