

one snatched every Colonial jewel from his glittering diadem.

It was a happy hour for the French Colonists that witnessed the lowering of their country's flag from the ramparts of Quebec. A period was then put to the fearful privations they had endured throughout the series of bitter years of alternate European war and Indian massacre. The commencement of the sway of Great Britain over this country was the signal for the resumption, on the part of the settlers, of those agricultural and commercial duties, on the prosecution of which their worldly prosperity exclusively depended. A new career of peaceful enterprise was opened to them, as the fearful struggles in which they were so constantly engaged were succeeded by the bloodless contests with the natural difficulties which a rude new country, with a severe climate, ever offers to the progress of settlement.

We can offer nothing so strong in support of the positions which we have wished to prove, that the Colonists were materially benefited by their change of government, as the following extract from an address to the electors of the West Ward of Montreal, in July, 1820, from the pen of no less an authority than that of Louis Joseph Papineau:—

"Not many days have elapsed since we assembled on this spot for the same purpose as that which now calls us together—the choice of Representatives. The opportunity of that choice being caused by a great national calamity, the decease of that beloved Sovereign who had reigned over the inhabitants of this country since the day they became British subjects, it is impossible not to express the feeling of gratitude for the many benefits received from him, and those of sorrow for his loss so deeply felt in this as in every other portion of his extensive dominions. And how could it be otherwise, when each year of his long reign has been marked by new favours bestowed upon the country. To enumerate these, and to detail the history of this country for so many years, would occupy more time than can be spared by those whom I have the honour to address. Suffice it, then, at a glance to compare our present happy situation with that of our fathers on the eve of the day when George the Third became their legitimate monarch. Suffice it to recollect, that under the French Government (internally and externally arbitrary and oppressive) the interests of this country had been more frequently neglected and mal-administered than any other part of its dependencies. In its estimation, Canada seems not to have been considered as a country which, from fertility of soil, salubrity of climate, and extent

of territory, might have been the peaceful abode of a numerous and happy population; but as a military post, whose feeble garrison was condemned to live in a state of perpetual warfare and insecurity—frequent suffering from famine—without trade, or with a trade monopolized by privileged companies—public and private property often pillaged, and personal liberty daily violated—when, year after year, the handful of inhabitants settled in this Province were dragged from their homes and families, to shed their blood, and carry murder and havoc from the shores of the great lake, the Mississippi and the Ohio, to those of Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Hudson's Bay. Such was the situation of our fathers:—behold the change! George the Third, a Sovereign revered for his moral character, attention to his kingly duties, and love of his subjects, succeeded Louis the Fifteenth, a prince then universally despised for his debauchery, his inattention to the wants of his people, and his lavish profusion of the public monies upon favourites and mistresses. From that day, the reign of the law succeeded to that of violence; from that day, the treasures, the Navy and the Armies of Great Britain, are mustered to afford us an invincible protection against external danger; from that day, the better part of her law became ours, while our Religion, Property, and the laws by which they were governed remain unaltered; soon after are granted to us the privileges of its free Constitution—an infallible pledge, when acted upon, of our internal prosperity. Now, religious toleration: trial by jury—(that wisest of safeguards ever devised for the protection of innocence;) security against arbitrary imprisonment, by the privileges attached to the writ of Habeas Corpus; legal and equal security afforded to all, in their person, honour, and property; the right to obey no other laws than those of our own making and choice, expressed through our Representatives:—*all these advantages have become our birthright, and shall, I hope, be the lasting inheritance of our posterity. To secure them, let us only act as British subjects and freemen.*"—*Quebec Gazette*, 1820.

We have thus cursorily glanced at the history of Spanish and French Colonization on the American Continent. The progress of the third great Emigrant Race, if we may so term it, the Anglo-Saxon, merits a few remarks. Of the two first we speak in the dispassionate and measured terms of calm, unbiassed inquiry. They are the property of the past; they live but amid its floating shadows and memorial pageantry. With the existence of the third we are personally identified: as part and parcel of its substantial realities. We look on the rise, progress and decline of extinct dynasties—the struggle, the triumph, the destruction, as they flit across the broad disk of history; not, it is