

contains over and above a most interesting controversy waged by the champion of the ultra montane party in France and the late Attorney General and present President of the Cour de Cassation, Mr. Dupin, on this occasion the mouth-piece of the French Liberal party—the confirmation of an opinion frequently set forth here, viz. ; *that the Feudal tenure, in its mildest form only, was introduced into Canada*, although France, England and Germany, for centuries, groaned under its most obnoxious features. Those feudal Barons, whom we depict to ourselves so intent on oppressing and so ready for trivial offences to roast and quarter their unfortunate serfs, were in very many cases the very reverse of cruel ; nay, some were humane and considerate to a degree. We read of some being quite satisfied with the gift of a pig, a goose, a sheep, for the right to pasture the whole flock on the domain of the landlord ; sometimes their eccentric humors betrayed them into strange fancies. We find a seigneur in France to whose manor the peasantry drove each year, in a vehicle drawn by four horses, a lark ; in another locality, an egg was substituted. We are also told that at Boulogne the Benedictine Monks of Saint Proculus exacted from those who had lease-hold property under them, the *steam* of a boiled capon ; the operation was performed thus on a fixed day in each year the tenant drew near the table of the seigneur, bearing the boiled chicken between two dishes, when the upper dish was removed to allow the fumes to escape ; this done he would remove the dish and the chicken.* He had acquitted his feudal service. Now we do not wish to speak ill of Benedictine or any other monks, but we

* We find several instances of tenures equally singular in England :—"A farm at Brookhouse, in Langsett, in the parish of Peniston, and county of York, pays yearly to Godfrey Bosville, Esq.," a snow ball in midsummer and a red rose at Christmas."

William de Albemarle holds the manor of Loston "by the service of finding for his Lord the King, two arrows and a loaf of oat bread, when he should hunt in the forest of Dartmore."

Solomon Attefeld held land at Reperland and Atherton, in the county of Kent, upon condition "that as often as our Lord the King would cross the sea, the said Solomon and his heirs ought to go with him to hold his head on the sea if it was needful."

John Compes had the manor of Finchingfield given him by King Edward III., for the service of turning the spit at his coronation."

Geoffrey Frumband held sixty acres of land in Wingfield in the county of Suffolk, by the service of paying to our Lord the King *two white doves* yearly.

John de Roches holds the manor of Winterslew, in Wiltshire by the service that when the King should abide at Clarendon, he should go into the butlery of the King's palace there, and draw out of what vessel he chooses, as much wine as should be needful for making a *pitcher of claret*, which he should make at the King's expense ; and that he should serve the King with a cup, and should have the vessel whence he took the wine, with all the wine then in it, together with the cup whence the King should drink the claret.

The town of Yarmouth is, by charter, bound to send the Sheriffs of Norwich a hundred herrings, which are to be baked in *twenty-four pies or pasties*, and