

unfortunately grown up, arising mainly from the traditional recollections by the Frenchman of his origin and conquest; and from his apprehension that, owing to the annual influx of new settlers from this country, his nationality may be obliterated entirely, as has been the fate of the German, Dutch, and French settlers in parts of the United States. The feeling is natural;—we can hardly say that it is not amiable. It has been artfully encouraged by a few designing men, mostly of the legal profession; a profession which usually furnishes society with reckless and ambitious characters, ready to raise themselves into eminence by inflaming dissension and turbulence. This state of parties in Canada is the true explanation of the events we have witnessed. There is no real cause of complaint of bad government, now, whatever may have been the case formerly; there is no animosity to England, still less is there any wish to connect themselves with the United States; their desire is to maintain their own nationality; to preserve the feudal institutions and laws of old France; — (institutions, long since abolished, there, but cherished by the colonist from feeling and from passion); —and I should ascribe the increased disposition to turbulence, of late years, to apprehensions created by the greatly increased arrivals of emigrants of British origin. These have gone out, for some years past, to the number of from 30,000 to 50,000 annually; and the French, seeing that they were in danger of being outnumbered, concluded that they must move, now or never, if they were to maintain themselves as a distinct people.

But if this be the true state of the case, your Lordships will see that it imposes serious duties upon the Government of this country. Our own people, although a numerical minority, probably in the proportion of about two or three, are entitled to protection. In some townships they form the majority — every where they are the principal owners of the shipping, manufacturing, and moveable property.—