

injurious to the country, it might be prudent to purchase their rights at the full value. But when there is so much wild lands yet unoccupied, the quantity granted to the Land Company cannot be very injurious to the public interest, provided that in future the waste lands of the Crown will be disposed of only to actual settlers. All the injury which the Land Company can produce, if they are not allowed to get any more of the waste lands of the Crown into their possession, is very trifling indeed, compared with what the Feudal Laws, and seigniorial claims and privileges must inflict upon the country, considering that the seigniorial lands are the most conveniently situated for occupation and improvement, and that all our cities and most of our towns and villages are built upon seigniorial property. When we hear men cry out violently against little matters, while they neglect to redress great evils that are in their power to remedy, it is no wonder we should doubt the sincerity of their desire for real and necessary reforms that would produce general good.

The most injurious of the grievances which the inhabitants of Canada, of all origins, complained of, have now been slightly adverted to; and it will be perceived that the British Government was not to blame for them all. It will also be seen that the French Canadians were not more oppressed, in any respect, than their fellow-subjects of British origin. Other minor abuses may have existed in the administration of the Colonial Government; but when we know that there is nothing perfect on earth, either in man or in laws, we could not expect to have more perfection in our government and institutions, than any other people on earth, and perhaps no people had less cause to complain in this respect than ourselves. As to the Agricultural class, they were never made acquainted

with the existence of a government here, by tax collectors, or by any direct oppression. Had they been under any other government on earth, they would not have enjoyed the same freedom from taxation; and from every kind and degree of oppression. It is almost incredible that, perfectly acquainted with all these circumstances, the leaders of the late insurrection in both Provinces could for a moment suppose that sensible men, who had any British feelings, or even a regard for self-interest, would join them in their foolish and treasonable designs, however sincerely they might be disposed to make, by all lawful means, really necessary reforms.

It is perfectly plain that were Canada an independent state, or a state of the adjoining Union, the pecuniary burdens of her people must, as a matter of necessity, (unnecessary to explain here) be increased twenty fold what they ever have been hitherto. We would find this to be a more certain consequence of a successful revolution and change of government, than any benefit to proceed from it to the agricultural class.

Previous to the arrival of Lord Gosford in Canada, the proceedings of the House of Assembly will not be noticed. But from that period their proceeding has had a very great influence in producing the late unfortunate events that have occurred in this Province, and it is due to their constituents that their conduct should be impartially examined.

We may regret that the reforms that were required in the Executive Council, were not introduced at an earlier period. In the Legislative Council, lately, the Judges, with the exception of the Chief Justice, were very properly excluded, and other members to whom objections were urged, received a friendly intimation that their attendance would be dispensed with. Lord Gosford in