

time cease to be Frenchmen; has kept them, and (unless the government interfere) will continue to keep them in the same state to which either the pride, national predilection, or worse motives of *men of influence* have hitherto confined them. Difference of manners, language, condition and Character, and even the most inflexible opposition to all modern improvements in the most common arts and employments, have been carefully cultivated and cherished, "*lost*," (as the leading men say) "*the Canadian [i. e. French] Character should be lost.*"—

I hope I shall not be charged with prejudice or contempt of "the Canadian Character," for having thus freely delivered my opinion. A simple description of men, manners or religion, is not a subject of prejudice or speculation;—the only question is, *whether it be fancy or fact.*—Men indeed may honestly differ about the deductions that are made from premises which all admit:—those which I draw, may be tested by experience, examples and common sense.—

As the universal usage of nations authorises a conqueror to introduce among the conquered such a code of criminal law as he may deem necessary to the safety of the state, Great-Britain gave to her newly acquired territory, the benefit of her own criminal law; whereby the Lords were stripped of their authority over their vassals; and both were made subject to the same rule. The policy in this case was similar to that formerly adopted in Great Britain; and the effect was the same.—The vindictive attribute of justice, was not less efficient though it was less invidious than formerly; and the concentration of authority, justice and punishment, in the sovereign power, produced among all classes of people, a salutary dependance on the government, and an emulation of loyalty and zeal, which perhaps con-

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