

men in a Parish is the Average among the Country Parishes of such as are all able to read or write. All the Instruction attended to is that portion of small literature necessary to make a Priest, a Clerk, a Notary, an Attorney or a Soldier: for a Canadian of the richer sort, scorns the labours of Agriculture, Commerce and the Arts. Few live on their Estates, or visit them, but for the purpose of picking up their rents. Where the right of the Seigneurie is split in fragments the Lords sink into the common mass of the vulgar; and the most opulent find a revenue ill suited to the distinction they wish to maintain. They are a very fading Noblesse. Their tenants are freeholders and of course each independent of their Chief:—Yet the Canadian Peasant, or Farmer, is no savage: the iron handed Government of a French Colony, has trained them to obedience; and the Church has not been inattentive to this work of cultivating a spirit of submission. It was favored by the first Cessions the Crown made and the quality of the soil, which brought the Tenantry together in close society, on small farms. Besides many of the first Colonists were Officers and Soldiers of Regiments, disbanded in the Country, who have transmitted to their Posterity a tameness and civility that generally pleases, and seldom offends: would to God, their morals were equal to their manners! That they are not, is not their fault alone."

MISCELLANEOUS PARAGRAPHS.

THE following is extracted from a M. S. Journal of a voyage across the Rocky Mountains in the North west in 1801.*

June 11. "Our guide, a Cree, whose spirits had visibly begun to droop ever since we entered the desiles of the Mountains, was last night presented by

* We thank the Gentleman who communicated this extract: any farther information, of the nature he mentions, will be very acceptable.

Mr. — with some rum to keep him hearty in the cause; upon this, he made shift to get drunk with his wife: this morning he complained that his head and stomach were out of order and asked for a little medicine, which was given him; but finding it did him neither good nor harm, he called his wife to him, where he was sitting amidst us, at a large fire we had made to warm ourselves. She readily came, he asked her if she had a sharp flint; and upon her replying 'she had not,' he broke one and made a lancet of it, with which he open'd a vein in his wife's arm, she assisting him with great good will; having drawn about a pint of blood from her, in a wooden bowl, to our astonishment, he applied it to his mouth, quite warm, and drank it off: then he mixed the blood that adhered to the vessel with water by way of cleaning the bowl, and also drank that off. While I was considering the savageness of this action, one of our men with indignation exclaimed to our Guide. "I have eaten and smoked with thee, but henceforward thou and I shall not smoke and eat together. What drink warm from the vein the blood of thy wife!" "Oh! my friend," said the Indian, have I done wrong? when "I find my stomach out of order, the warm blood of my wife, in good health, refreshes the whole of my body, and puts me to rights: in return, when she is not well I draw blood from my arm: she drinks it: it gives her life: all our nation do the same, and they all know it to be a good medicine."

It is a curious and indisputable fact, though I believe not generally attended to, that the Canadians live at present under a Monarch who is descended from the Family that reigned over their ancestors; when they are first known in History. It is generally known, that the great majority of the first settlers in Canada, was from Normandy: now William the Seventh Duke of Normandy, surnamed the Conqueror, obtained the Crown of England, by the defeat and death of Harold in the battle of Hastings in 1066; and our present Sovereign is a lineal descendant from that Prince. The descendants of William of Normandy, Kings of England, kept possession of their Dukedom till 1203, in the Reign of King John, when it was lost. The whole of the Dukedom, excepting the Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, and the other small islands on the Coast, has ever since remained united to the Kingdom of France.

C. R.