

The manner in which these visitations are performed, affords a curious contrast with the performance of the same duty in England, where the Bishops usually travel in their carriages and four, with all the best accommodation which a highly advanced state of society can afford. It is very right that they should do so; for it is the business of the Christian Priesthood, rather willingly to meet, than affectedly to court, difficulties and hardships; and it is unquestionable, that the marks of exterior dignity are properly retained by the heads of an established religion. In this respect, the Bishop of Quebec always felt it to be his duty to deviate no otherwise from the usage at home, than as he was compelled by local circumstances to do so, and held it for a maxim, that his salary was given him, not for his private benefit, but as the means of usefulness, and as the instrument also of maintaining the dignity of his station: in fact, he never saved money in his life. But he might have been seen, upon his visitations, with his attendants, at one time mounting or descending rapids in the bateau of the voyageur; at another, coasting the vast inland waters in a bark canoe, with armed Indians;* frequently travelling in waggons, under the circumstances already described; forced often either when belated by the badness of roads, or baffled by winds when on the water, to take refuge in some wretched hut, where, possibly, he could not even spread the bedding which he carried; sometimes he has passed the night under a tent, or in a barn; and it has happened more than once, that he has done so in the open air. The visitations were not completed without having recourse to every variety in the modes of vegetation; schooners, steam-boats, calèches, carioles, stages, (as the Americans call their four-wheeled posting carriages) may be added to those already enumerated. The means of accommodation, of course, improve as the country advances in improvement; but as the duty of the Bishop carried him to every point where a mission was opened, the difficulties which belong to the most infant and rugged settlements continued always to form a part in the history of his visitations. His whole circuit, through the two Provinces, cannot be estimated at less than 3000 miles.

Having taken this sketch of the successive visitations collectively, there are one or two occurrences of prior note in point of time, to which it will be proper to return.

The Cathedral Church at Quebec (which is by far the best piece of architecture which the city can exhibit, perhaps may challenge compa-

* In 1813, the Bishop was furnished, by Sir G. Prevost, at Kingston with a canoe, paddled by ten Indians, and having an interpreter on board. The last war with America was then at its height; and the Bishop had the utmost difficulty, upon one or two occasions, where there was some appearance of alarm respecting some armed ~~rookers~~ ^{rogues} of the enemy, which infested the coast, in prevailing upon these fellows to proceed. In 1816 he coasted Lake Erie in a large canoe, furnished by the kindness of the North West Company, with twelve of the Canadians employed in their service, who are superior, as canoe-men, to the Indians themselves.