

forget that however devoted the Loyalists were to British connection, yet in their economic methods, their social habits and their municipal politics, they were thoroughly American, and brought with them to Canada the prevailing American ideas in these matters.

This is not the place for an analysis of the character and capacity of the Loyalists, but it is essential to note that they were far from being of one uniform type. Few more miscellaneous collections of people have ever been found. Their education, character and motives ranged from the highest to the lowest types which the colonies afforded. Most of them had a very high ideal of the British Government's obligations towards themselves, and their settlement in their new homes was not effected without a great deal of grumbling and friction with Government officials.

The initial troubles of settlement safely over, they soon joined with the English element already in the country in renewing the agitation for the repeal of the unfortunate Quebec Act. In this they were soon successful, at least as far as Upper Canada was concerned, for the Constitutional Act of 1791 permitted the Upper Province to re-establish the English law as it was known in the colonies from which the Loyalists came.

The large sums of money which the Revolutionary War had brought to Canada were not of course in the hands of the Loyalists, most of whom came to the country with very limited means or none at all. When the direct Government support of the first few years was withdrawn, and the people were left to provide for themselves, they had neither a great deal of ready money, nor the means of procuring it. There were several military establishments in the western settlements, and others at the Indian trading posts, all of which required considerable supplies, so that there was for a time quite a flourishing local market for the surplus provisions of the more thrifty settlers. It was estimated that the British Government spent, in the early nineties, about £200,000 on the military and Indian establishments in Canada. It also supported the greater part of the civil administration, and supplied a number of pensions.

The Honorable Richard Cartwright, one of the most intelligent, shrewd, and far-sighted of the early settlers, in a letter,