

le fruit qu'elles portoient ; ils mirent des enfans tout vivent à la broche et contraignirent, les mères de les tourner pour les faire rotir !' And, according to Colden, (p. 79,) the Indians whom the French took prisoners in the battle of Skenectaday were *cut into pieces, and boiled to make soups for the Indian allies who accompanied the French.* The French settlers therefore gladly availed themselves of the British permission to remain in their rich seigneuries on the fertile banks of the St. Lawrence.

On our occupation of Canada, we found that the government of the colony had been confided to a military ruler, and an intendant or king's financier, (M. Bigot,) who, together with his creatures, had plundered the colonists of 12,000,000 livres, by the issuing of card or paper money, the bills of exchange for which the king of France dishonoured ; and the only compensation received by the Canadians for £4,000,000 paper currency, (its amount at the conquest,) was four per cent on the original value.

Nor was the political state of the Canadians much better than their financial : the government was the worst form of a colonial military despotism. One of the first steps of England was, by proclamation, 7th of Oct. 1763, to appoint a governor (Guy Carleton) and council, who were authorized to erect courts of judicature according to law and equity, and, as near as might be, in conformity with the statutes of England, with an appeal home. In 1774 the population of the province, including British and French, was about 90,000, and the statute of the 14th George III. was passed, the object of which was to provide a council for the management of all the affairs of the colony, (except taxation,) in which the French Canadians were eligible to a seat. So far so good ; but then came the evil—namely, creating a separation of classes in a *British* possession. French laws, and trial in civil cases according to those laws, were enacted ; and English laws, with trial by jury in criminal cases, were ordained.

At the termination of the American war, which ended in the establishment of England's former colonies as the "United States," a large number of loyalists, attached to the constitution and government of England, took refuge in Canada, particularly in the upper parts of the province, where land was freely accorded to them. The accession of this body of settlers, and the state of the neighbouring republic, led to a determination on the part of the British government to give a constitution, a term which was then the rage of the day, to Canada. The Quebec act of 1791 was passed ; the province was divided into two parts, Upper and Lower Canada ; a £10 franchise given to the electors ;