

rbes, &c., gathered in
rich but abused plain,
to the horizon, except
and imposing isolated
eau, you hear the boat
is little sweetness or
the low shore of the
six churches, with the
ers of the new cathedral,
which alone rescues the
e who wish to contem-
ous architecture in North
the cathedral.
roduction of the Gothic
hat is there among us
is there connected with
nd what good influence
future? We have had
taste through many ages,
different stages of civili-
ry at all allied to such a
tion is based on the foun-
there is no mystery, no
is concealed, nothing is
re. Neither do we admit
elings are to be influenced
Why then should we
in which vastness and
e heart, without offering to
fasten upon; in which the
ich they cannot penetrate,
es and ornaments the mind
plicity and use, two of the
, are banished hence; the
rmed is obscured; and the
mystified, as far as archi-
n an effect.

s country, to present vast
trace none of the great prin-

ciples of natural taste; in which the mind finds only per-
plexity; and the feelings, instead of being exalted with hope
and encouragement, are depressed with undefined gloom.
How far more appropriate are the pure and chaste Greek
styles to our own history, character, and condition! I would
take the Doric and Ionic in preference to the Corinthian:
and, if I may judge from my own feelings, the first-men-
tioned is to be preferred to all others. Regard the ancient
rules and proportions so far as they are appropriate to the
uses of our public edifices, and consistent with the nature
of our climate; and then the more vigorously you cultivate
taste and multiply specimens in cities, towns, villages, and
the very forests where they may be needed, the better. In
America there is no apology for a gradual introduction of
any species of perfection which necessity does not forbid
us to know at once. We must admit only the best of every
thing. Where the forest tree falls, there let taste erect her
purest monuments, while learning adopts the best methods
for instruction, and philanthropy binds heart to heart with
the love of the gospel: for liberty has established a system
which requires the most powerful support of us all, and
we are answerable to mankind for an exhibition of the no-
blest results of civilization and Christianity.

One of the unaccountable traits of the taste of our coun-
trymen, is displayed by many of them on entering a Cana-
dian town. They will take off their children to the nunne-
ries, obtain, if possible, an interview with the superieures,
purchase a few trifles of domestic manufacture, infer from
what they see that all must be well arranged and systematic
in every department, because they spend a few minutes in
the presence of stiff and starched nuns, and go away with
a gratuitous impression that there is a great deal of solid in-
struction given to the children and young persons whom
they profess to teach.