

where we spent the corresponding season of last year. The French spoken in those provinces of the mother country is often far less correct, and less easy to follow, than that of the Canadians, whose manners are very prepossessing, much softer and more polite than those of their Anglo-Saxon fellow-countrymen, however superior the latter may be in energy and capability of advancement.

I was informed by a physician at Montreal that the English language has made great progress there within his recollection; and all agree that it would soon become still more general if the seat of government were transferred to that city,—a measure since realized, but which was then only beginning to be discussed (1842), and was exciting no small effervescence of party feeling. I was assured by many that it was the only step towards anglicising Lower Canada that would be popular with the French party. The country round Kingston must always be comparatively barren, as much of the soil consists of granite and granitic detritus; and it could never become a large metropolis, such as Toronto might be made, or such as Montreal is even now.

Quebec, with its citadel and fortifications crowning the precipitous heights which overhang the St. Lawrence, and where the deep and broad river is enlivened with a variety of shipping, struck us as the most picturesque city we had seen since we landed in America. We were glad to meet with some old friends among the officers of the garrison, who accompanied us to the Falls of Montmorency, and other places in the neighbourhood. Their task in maintaining strict discipline in their corps, in preventing