

heroes landed ; from hence, they started for the forest primeval, the bearers of the olive branch of Christianity, of civilization.

A fatal mistake committed at the outset by the French commanders, in taking part in the Indian wars, more than once brought the incipient colony to the verge of ruin : during these periods, scores of devoted missionaries fell under the scalping knife or suffered incredible tortures, amongst the merciless savages whom they had come to reclaim. Indian massacres became so frequent, so appalling, that on several occasions the French thought of giving up the colony for ever. The rivalry between France and England, added to the hardships and dangers of the few hardy colonists established at Quebec. Its environs, the shores of its noble river, more than once became the battle-fields of European armies. These were periods of strife, happily gone by ; we hope, forever.

In his "*Pioneers of France in the New World*," the gifted Frs. Parkman mournfully reviews the vanished glories of old France in her former vast dominions, in America.

" The French dominion is a memory of the past ; and when we evoke its departed shades, they rise upon us from their graves in strange romantic guise. Again their ghostly camp-fires seem to burn, and the fitful light is cast around on lord and vassal and black-robed priest, mingled with wild forms of savage warriors, knit in close fellowship on the same stern errand. A boundless vision grows upon us : an untamed continent