

II.

148. Mark the excellent descriptive quality of this passage, to l. 170.

149. The Scorpion is the eighth sign in the Zodiac. The sun enters this sign about October 23rd each year. Longfellow, for poetical purposes, makes the events occur a little later in his story than they did in fact. See note to l. 524.

153. See Genesis xxxii. 24-32.

159. The SUMMER OF ALL SAINTS is our "Indian Summer." It lasts about thirty days from the 23rd of October. All Saints Day falls on November 1st.

162-3. There is something very effective in the poet's introduction, at intervals throughout the poem, of that "deep-voiced" ocean beside which the Acadians lived and suffered. Cf. ll. 5-6, 658-62, 1024-5, 1398-9.

169. See derivation of SHEEN.

170. Xerxes, the mighty Persian monarch, once found a beautiful plane-tree. So great was his admiration that he clothed it gorgeously and placed it under the care of a guard.

172. Cf. Campbell, *To the Evening Star*. Elsewhere Longfellow translates as follows a passage in Dante's *Divina Commedia*:—

"Day was departing, and the imbrowned air
Released the animals that are on earth
From their fatigues."

185. It is probable that wolves were common throughout Nova Scotia in the Acadian time. The Acadians petitioned the government under date of June 10th, 1755, for the return of their arms, saying: "... our guns are absolutely necessary to us ... to defend our cattle which are attacked by wild beasts."

217. The last two words are "onomatopoetic": they represent the sound of the thing signified. ll. 199-217 contain a charming picture.

232-3. Here we have the first hint of the tragic events about to happen.

237. See note to l. 524.

240. The full text of "His Majesty's Mandate" will be found in Haliburton's *History*, i. 176, or Parkman's *Montcalm and Wolfe*, i. 273. His Majesty, of course, was King George II.

249. "Louisburg was in its time the strongest fortress in North America. . . . It was begun by the French shortly after the Treaty of Utrecht to command the fisheries and the approach by sea to Canada." Its fortifications were of great magnitude, occupied thirty years in building, and cost upwards of \$5,000,000. It was an object of much uneasiness to the English. In 1745 it was captured by an expedition from New England. Three years later it was restored to France at the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. Louisburg was finally captured, and destroyed, in 1758.

Beauséjour was a French fort on the Isthmus of Chignecto. The hill on which it was built looks straight down the Bay of Fundy and possesses a commanding position. It was captured by the English in June, 1755, and its name changed to Fort Cumberland. Colonel Winslow went from Beauséjour to Grand Pré. The earthworks of the fort still remain,