

shown the world that the immortal Homer was no writer of romance.

But it is not ancient history alone that our scholars are re-writing: Men now living have seen the "Wizard of the North," change the whole face of Scotland by the magic of his matchless pen ; until Scott waved his wand, it was but the

"Land of brown heath and shaggy wood,
Land of the mountain and the flood."

but under his spell it has become, for old and young alike, the land of heroic daring, and romantic deeds.

What Sir Walter Scott did for Scotland, Prescott and Irving have done for Spain, Macaulay has accomplished for the England of the Puritans, and Motley has done for the heroes who founded the great Dutch Republic, planted the Colony of New York, and laid the corner stone of the Empire State.

And, what is of more interest to us, *Francis Parkman* has done for *Nouvelle France*.

I would like to add a few words of encouragement in our work, we set out with advantages which must not be overlooked. About us every foot of soil is historic ground. Here has ever been the bona-fide seat of empire in Canada. Within the past few years the Government has awakened to the necessity of garnering and rescuing from oblivion the fleeting memorials of the past, which to the future historian will be priceless treasures. Of this I need not speak further, as, doubtless, our indefatigable and courteous archivist, Mr. Brymner is personally known to you all. But we have another duty, to my mind, even more important than that of gathering materials for history. It is that of making the rising generation appreciate the grandeur of the past. Almost servile in following European systems of education, our youths can give the names of the Roman Emperors, can trace the dynasties of France, or tell you how constitutional government arose in England, but the growth of liberty at