

of conquest and of commerce. The missionary on the one hand, and the trader on the other, furnish the good and evil geniuses of the long and interesting story from the first discovery to the time of the opening of our tale. The seeds of rivalry and discord had grown into a harvest of large proportions. The harvest was gathered fifty years afterwards at the capture of Quebec.

In a few minor instances, as in the case of Madame de Frontenac, we have ventured to depart from the records of history, but in general we shall be found to have adhered to them.