

their own people were the descendants of incorporated remnants of their defeated foes.

The abiding impress of the League upon history was, however, made by its effects against France in the Anglo-Gallic struggle for control in North America. Champlain, by his interferences on the side of the Hurons, had unwittingly stirred up a most formidable nest of hornets. It is needless to enter into details of the century and a half of fierce wars which followed. It was the bitter and terrible warfare of the Iroquois against French colonisation in Canada which rendered the final success of the British inevitable. In 1686 the Canadian colonists only numbered some 10,000, against 200,000 estimated in the British colonies; yet the supreme spurt in the colonisation of New France had just been put forth under Colbert; and that was previous to the Iroquois deluge of blood in 1689, and to the "Seventy Years' War."

Hiawatha is consequently a factor of considerable importance in the history of the world. His thought and work still live, and they will live for ever. Keen, lofty, and good as was his idea, he evidently, like other masters, "builded better than he knew." And if, apart from the profound political results, the aroma of his idea, distilled in poetry and romance, or refined in historical reflection, shall go on inspiring other men to be in some degree nobler in their own manner and day,—then the Lawgiver of the Forest, the Christ of his race, has amply earned the title of Hiawatha the Great.