

wards the Rivers St. Lawrence and St. Charles, and lofty hedges and shrubbery hide them in an English seclusion from the highway ; so that the visitor may uninterruptedly meditate whatever emotion he will for the scene of Wolfe's death, as he rides along. His loftiest emotion will want the noble height of that heroic soul, who must always stand forth in history a figure of beautiful and singular distinction, admirable alike for the sensibility and daring, the poetic pensiveness, and the martial ardor that mingled in him, and taxed his feeble frame with tasks greater than it could bear. The whole story of the capture of Quebec is full of romantic splendor and pathos. Her fall was a triumph for all the English-speaking race, and to us Americans, long scourged by the cruel Indian wars plotted within her walls, or sustained by her strength, such a blessing as was hailed with ringing bells and blazing bonfires throughout the Colonies ; yet now we cannot think without pity of the hopes extinguished and the labors brought to nought in her overthrow. That strange colony of priests and soldiers, of martyrs and heroes, of which she was the capital, willing to perish for an allegiance to which the mother country was indifferent, and fighting against the armies with which England was prepared to outnumber the whole Canadian population, is a magnificent spectacle ; and Montcalm laying down his life to lose Quebec, is not less affecting than Wolfe dying to earn her. The heart opens towards the soldier who recited, on the eve of his costly victory, the " 'Elegy in a Country Churchyard,' which he would rather have written than beat the French to-morrow ;" but it aches for the defeated general, who, hurt to death, answered when told how brief his time was, "So much the better ; then I shall not live to see the surrender of Quebec."

In the City for which they perished, their fame has never been divided. The English have shown themselves very generous victors ; perhaps nothing could be alleged against them, but that they were victors.