



stifling. Let the tourist beware of the month of August for a transcontinental trip. It is the custom in British Columbia to blame the C.P.R. for the ravages of these forest fires, whose origin is scientifically traced to the floating spark of the fiery engine. Its contribution to the conflagration is in my opinion a light one, not in the jocular sense of the word only. Dozens of these fires break out far above the line, and in a climate as dry as that of the Pacific Province in the summer months a flash of lightning or even the friction of a couple of branches will produce the tiny flame that may ignite thousands of acres and convert a green mountain side into a desolate area of blackened tangled poles. The effect of the smoke about Donald is incredible. A cloud of it will roll down like a curtain, and no traveller could be induced to believe there is a mountain in the neighborhood. Then suddenly one day a gentle zephyr rises, and presto! there was a transformation scene no pantomime, however well organized, could rival; sky and smoke melt into one another and soft ragged fleeces of vapour sweep slowly away over the tops of the everlasting hills which guard the Columbia valley.

THE CHARGE OF THE BLACK BRUNSWICKERS.

BATTLE OF LEIPSIK: OCTOBER 16-19, 1813.

I.

The cause of freedom saving
By death and danger braving,
At Leipzig we drew sword
What time the battle roar'd
Hurrah!

II.

Whilst bursting shells tore shrieking
Through ranks with blood a-reeking;
In ringing tones and clear
Spoke out our Brigadier—
Hurrah!

III.

"We who so oft as bidden
To battlefield have ridden,
We'll make the tyrant fly
Or sword in hand we'll die
Hurrah!"

IV.

With battle-thunder crashing,
With guns their deathfire flashing,
It was our country's right
To call us to the fight,—
Hurrah!

V.

Our steeds were proudly prancing,
Swords all in sunlight glancing:
"For Fatherland the aid
Of our old Black Brigade,—
Hurrah!"

VI.

Our serried ranks were steady,
Though hardly held, and ready,
Like eagles in their stoop,
Down on the foe to swoop,—
Hurrah!

VII.

Then pealed a trumpet calling
Us with its voice enthralling
To fight the foe again,
And quit ourselves like men,
Hurrah!

VIII.

Scarce had its last note sounded—
Forward our chargers bounded;
Pealing afar and near
Thundered a mighty cheer,—
Hurrah!

IX.

We shook the ground with thunder,
We burst their ranks asunder,
And rent the very sky
With victory's battle-cry,—
Hurrah!

X.

We charge for death or glory;
Our name is writ in story;
Honour that ne'er shall fade
Covers our Black Brigade,—
Hurrah!

Of histories of Canada in French we have no lack. The first explorers, colonizers and missionaries were their own historians, so that, as settlement advanced, the record of it kept pace with its growth. Charlevoix, therefore, when he undertook to write the story of New France, had, in addition to his own experience, a number of valuable works composed by successive writers in the times to which they related. The language in which he announced his intention was certainly not hopeful. The progress neither of colonization nor of missions had, in his opinion, fulfilled the hopes of those who had engaged in those tasks, and his chief aim was to show the causes of the failure. The *Journal Historique* is not the least entertaining and instructive part of the *Histoire et Description Générale*. It is often, indeed, a surprise to find how accurate are the topography and maps of Charlevoix, when compared with the results of modern and, what we should naturally consider, more exhaustive examination. Charlevoix remained for more than a hundred years without a rival, for as his successor, Garneau, says, in the preface to the third edition (1859) of his *Histoire du Canada*, we cannot regard as histories all the books that bear the name, some of which are merely travellers' tales. William Smith, whose two volumes are now rare, did, indeed, intervene between Charlevoix and Garneau, and Mr. J. F. Perrault wrote, in French, a manual for schools. But when Garneau set himself to his task, there was a most important portion of our later annals that had as yet practically found no historian. Bell's translation placed Garneau's researches within reach of the English-speaking public, and for a generation it was in common use with both sections of our public. But, as time passed, the story of Canada under the Union, and of Canada since Confederation, remained unwritten. Macmullen ended, at the year 1855, his one-volume history, now brought down, in a later edition, nearly to our own time. The works of Withrow, and Bryce in English, and of Sulte in French, also cover the whole period, down to the date of publication, as do several school histories, such as those of Miles, Hodgins, Jeffers and Archer. Meanwhile some important additions had been made to the list of works treating of special periods, or of one or other of the provinces. Some, like M. l'Abbé Ferland's excellent contribution, covered the whole of the Old Regime; others, like Faillon's *Histoire de la Colonie Française* (left incomplete by the author's death), were less comprehensive in design or in execution. It is not our intention at present to say anything of the merits, intrinsic or comparative, of the foregoing works. Our object is simply to show how much has been accomplished of late years in a field so long untouched, by way of introduction to some brief mention of an important work now in course of publication. The "History of Canada," by William Kingsford, is certainly the most ambitious attempt yet made by any English writer (save Parkman) to treat *in extenso* and with due regard to recent discovery and criticism, of the rule of France in the New World, from the earliest French voyage to the English Conquest, and of the rule of Great Britain, from 1760 till the establishment of the federal system and on to the present time. "It will be my endeavour," writes Mr. Kingsford, in his opening chapter, "with what power I possess, to trace the history of British rule in Canada since its Conquest from the French, and to relate, to the best of my humble ability, the series of events which have led to the present constitution under which the Dominion is governed. . . . I will make every effort to be fair and honest, and those with whom I may have the misfortune to differ will, I hope, recognize that I have consulted original authorities, and that whatever opinions I express are not hastily or groundlessly formed; but that, on the contrary, I have warrant for the belief that they are fully sustained by evidence." No principle could be more trustworthy for the guidance of a historian than that which Mr. Kingsford here adopts as his rule. We cannot unreservedly approve of some remarks preceding the sentence just quoted. "Most of us," says Mr. Kingsford, "inherit a tone of thought, which colours our opinions, and which creates and confirms our prejudices. Moreover, I cannot escape the unpleasant feeling of knowing (consciousness) that I must say much which will be antagonistic to that which to-day is believed by many." If the author means to urge his own mental, moral or religious inheritance as an excuse for his method of dealing with questions of history, we must pronounce the excuse utterly invalid. It is a historian's duty to overcome such inherited pre-judgments. From what follows, indeed, we take it for granted that Mr. Kingsford is referring to the inherited prejudices of his readers, not his own. Of course, the work itself should make that clear. That Mr. Kingsford has consulted many sources of knowledge, and given long and careful thought to every page in his history, we do not doubt. Nevertheless, that some of his conclusions should be called in question was only to be expected, from prevailing differences of opinion and from the fact that in an age of research, such as ours, fresh light is constantly being shed on points hitherto obscure. As yet only two volumes of Kingsford's History have made their appearance. The first brings the narrative down to the "foundation of Louisiana" by La Salle, in 1682; the second closes with the death of M. de Vaudreuil, the Governor, in 1725. If Mr. Kingsford carries out his purpose of

bringing the history down to the present, we may look for at least four more volumes. Sulte's *Histoire des Canadiens-Français* fills eight volumes. We hope to have more to say of this meritorious work when the third volume, which will conclude the story of the Old Regime, has been issued.

At the close of his first Book (Vol. I., p. 131), Mr. Kingsford, having come to the termination of Champlain's career, naturally adds something touching the spot which was the hallowed receptacle of his remains. He bases his conclusion as to the locality in question (though with evident suspicion that it is only a hypothesis or theory) on the pamphlet published by Abbé Laverdière and Casgrain in 1867. Strange to say, Mr. Kingsford makes no allusion to the article contributed to *L'Opinion Publique*, nine years later, by Abbé Casgrain (his colleague in the pamphlet having died, universally regretted, in 1867), in which he surveyed the question from a wholly different standpoint, the ground for the change being a document, up to that time (1875) unpublished. In 1880 another contribution was made to the discussion by Dr. W. E. Dionne in his *Études Historiques*, which obtained the prize offered by the late Comte de Premio Real. And now we have before us a pamphlet in which Dr. Harper, editor of the *Educational Record*, reviews the whole controversy, and, after a careful examination of the entire field of research, reaches conclusions different from those of any of his predecessors. In placing before English readers the various stages of the controversy from that November morning in the closing year of the Union régime when antiquarian and literary Quebec was stirred by the announcement that the tomb of the city's founder had been discovered, to the present year, Dr. Harper has conferred a service on the cause of historical inquiry, for which we are duly grateful to him. He does justice to M. Stanislas Drapeau, so ruthlessly belaboured by the late ex-Governor of Manitoba, then editor of *L'Journal de Québec*, allowing him his share in stimulating the investigation; gives a piquant sketch of the antiquaries' quarrel; indicates to what extent the able author of the *Études sur la Colonisation* had suggested the first conclusion of the learned abbés; does credit to the candour with which Abbé Casgrain acknowledged his first mistake when the Historical Society of Boston drew attention to the untenableness of his view; and, finally, with the documents, on which that learned writer based his retraction in his hand, Dr. Harper applies himself *de novo*, and with unbiassed mind, to the task of ascertaining, if possible, where the remains of Samuel de Champlain had been originally laid in a tomb all by itself (*sépulchre particulier*). What then is "the end of the whole matter," in Dr. Harper's judgment? "There can," he writes, "be little doubt that he was buried in the cemetery near at hand to the parish church, the *Cimetière de la Montagne*, which was laid off on the slope of the hill near the site where till lately stood the Parliament Buildings." The *Chapelle de Champlain*, which, he thinks, was built by Governor de Montmagny in 1636, was destroyed by fire on the 14th of June, 1640, as well as the Jesuits' *Presbytère*, and the *Chapelle de la Reconnaissance*. The latter took fire from the *Presbytère* and Champlain's chapel from the combined conflagration, and if we only knew in what direction the wind blew at that time we would know where this last edifice stood. Now, on the 18th of December, 1850, while workmen were removing the remains of the old *Évêché*, in order to improve the Parliament buildings, "they came upon a tomb which had evidently been, at the time of its construction, carefully built with solid masonry, and which at the time the workmen exposed it contained some human remains. This tomb, in my opinion," continues Dr. Harper, "was none other than the *sépulchre particulier* in which the remains of Samuel de Champlain were deposited in 1635." At this triumphant stage we must leave this interesting pamphlet, which we are happy to welcome among the ever-increasing contributions to Canadian historical research.

We have to acknowledge the receipt from the publisher, Mr. J. Theo. Robinson, of this city, copies of the authorized edition of two new and interesting novels by Amélie Rives—"A Brother to Dragons and the Furrier Lass of Piping Peabworth" (25 cents), and "Virginia of Virginia" (30 cents). We have also received from the National Publishing Company, Toronto, "The Witness of the Sun," by the same author.

HUMOUROUS.

Four hunters fire simultaneously at a rabbit that keeps on running, and they ask altogether, "I wonder who missed that time?"

"I suppose old Farmer Squash took the hint and gave you something when he saw you looking at his poultry?" said the minister. "Deed he did, say," replied 'Lijah. "He gave me the debble."

"William Henry, you have the elements of greatness in you, and if you were not so indolent you might be a famous man." "I don't want to be a famous man." "Why not?" "Well, as I am now, people address me respectfully as William Henry." "Yes." "And if I were famous they would slap me on the back and call me Bill."

Mrs. Tessau: "You don't know how much I am enjoying Prof. Watervliet's lectures on Herculeaneum. So clear and concise, they're positive revelations!" Mrs. Rolly: "Let me see. Who was Herculeaneum, my dear?" Mrs. Tessau: "I haven't quite made out yet, but he was either one of those Ramanesques, or a Gaul, or something of that kind. There's another lecture to-morrow afternoon."