

Where heroes lived and taught, and martyrs died;²²
 Where in the freedom of a mighty realm
 Her factions might unite or separate ;²³
 So France must save her fair child Nouvelle France
 From heathendom and British heretics,²⁴
 Although a thoughtful son of France wrote home :
 " Judge what will be the wrath and vengeance of
 This cruel nation."²⁵ And the raids went on,
 Till ruin reigned where happy homes had been.

XI.

Thus faithful souls broke faith with heretics;
 A crime which, though it be a "venial" sin,²⁶
 And easily absolved by penances,
 Yet heaped up wrath against a day of wrath,
 Until the reek, condensing, fell and flowed,²⁷
 And as a torrent speeds toward the sea,
 The frantic, maddening, rending deluge came;
 And strewed the settlement on distant shores.²⁸

XII.

A bloodless revolution, in whose trail,
 To some more sad than many lives destroyed,
 Was strewn the wreckage of a hundred homes,—
 A revolution such as mother France
 Herself has witnessed at her capital,

²² There are few if any missions having such records of true Christian heroism as the earliest Jesuit missions to Nouvelle France.

²³ The factions of Protestants provide a continual source of discussion, as compared with the unity of Rome; but if we had no records except those of early Canadian history, we could ask for no darker picture of factional intrigue and strife.

²⁴ At this time French heretics had been effectually disposed of, to whom reference is made in Note 20.

²⁵ See Note 2.

²⁶ This remark may provoke resentment, but it was the teaching, nevertheless, which led up to the Exile.

²⁷ In some Swiss villages the moisture evaporated during the heat of the day condenses at approach of evening, and rain falls from a cloudless sky, to trickle down the mountain side in tiny streamlets, and unite further down in roaring torrents that carry all before them to the sea.

²⁸ The last straw may be the most insignificant of the whole load, but the blame of breaking the camel's back has always been heaped upon it until its individuality has become notorious.