

For the basic local laws of eight Provinces differ more widely from those of Quebec than they do from the United States, except perhaps Louisiana.

A SHORT APPEAL TO HISTORY WILL EXPLAIN THE REASON.

The Historian's History of the World says:—

"The stage on which the drama of Canadian History unfolds may seem to the world an obscure one. A closer view, however, will reveal that on this stage some of the gravest problems of history have been pressed to a solution. . . . Battles were fought on the Rhine, the Elbe, the Danube; German, Austrian, Spanish thrones were shaken to their fall; navies grappled in the Caribbean and Mahratta hordes were slaughtered on the rice fields of India, to decide the struggle which ended only upon the Plains of Abraham. Now in these Imperial domains which Wolfe's triumph secured to British sway, a people is taking shape which bids fair to combine the power and genius of the two great races from which it springs."

As a matter of fact the stage was the northern hemisphere. The drama might be called "The Birth of the British Empire, and the American and Canadian Nations." The time was the middle of the 18th century. The important scene to us was on the Continent. Acts in it had been closed with the treaties of Ryswick 1697, Utrecht 1713, Aix la Chapelle 1748. The latter was only a suspension of hostilities during which both combatants were preparing for another round. Some historians say that in the fight of the British under command of young Washington against the French under Jumonville near where Pittsburg now stands, the shot that killed Jumonville was heard not only throughout the settlements and wilds of America, but in Europe, and started the old French war, the Seven Years' War, or, some call it, the French and Indian War. In that war George Washington capitulated at Fort Necessity to DeVilliers, brother of Jumonville, on the 4th of July, 1754. Then began the British Colonial disaster and defeats at Braddocks Crossing, Lake George, Oswego, Fort William Henry and Ticonderoga. At that time the French held this Continent from the Rockies to the Alleghannies, and from the Gulf of Florida to the North Pole, except the Hudson Bay Company's territory, and seemed likely to realize their hope to drive the British Colonials eastward of the Alleghannies, and if possible into the ocean. In