

student it is scarcely possible to over-estimate its value, from a careful perusal of the "moving accidents by flood and field," suffered by the pioneers, we learn what a brave race they were, and how we may all well be proud of our country of to-day, which,

"Like a beacon on a mountain top,

Seen of the nations, doth illumine the world."

With these sentiments, we heartily welcome,—“Count Frontenac and New France under Louis XIV.” By Francis Parkman, Author of “Pioneers of France in the New World,” &c., &c., forming the fifth part of his series of historical narratives. It will be received with pleasure by every one who has had the privilege of reading his previous volumes, and it fully sustains the reputation of the author. The *New York Nation*, in a recent article, declared that Harvard University, since the date of Francis Parkman's graduation in 1844, can show no graduate of sufficient eminence in literature to be named with him. It is worthy of note that from the bosom of Harvard have come forth the most distinguished historical writers which America has produced—Bancroft, Prescott, Motley, and Parkman. Bancroft took for his subject his own country. Prescott was attracted by the imposing grandeur of Spain. Motley saw in Holland and the robust vigour of the Dutch that which won his devotion and stimulated his genius. And Parkman noticed in the French race colonizing this continent, in the courageous enthusiasm and love of adventure shown by its priests, nobles and soldiers, that which commanded his admiration and gave a controlling purpose to his life. We deem it fortunate for Canada that a writer of Mr. Parkman's qualities and attainments should have made her history a special study-work. We learn from his present, preface that at the age of eighteen he formed a purpose of writing on French American history. And for nearly forty years he has held by that purpose of his young manhood, notwithstanding the obstacle of impaired sight,