

How British subjects murdered Britain's sons,
Sent greater gifts to aid the cause,¹⁷ and said :
" I am well pleased with all that you have done." ¹⁸

VIII.

So, on a pretext of not bearing arms, ¹⁹
In case of war against their countrymen,
And having all religious rites maintained,
Which Britain granted more than France had done, ²⁰
They still rebelled, and pleased the king of France :
Who hoped that British counsel would advise
Abandonment of such a wretched cause :
That France, by keeping foothold, yet might hope
To conquer once again fair Canada.

IX.

If one ask why Acadians left their homes,
Whose sleeping inmates never barred the doors,
Where maidens loved to live, and lived to love,
And peace and plenty smiled on every side, ²¹
Left these to don the red man's plumes, and swoop
Transfixing citizens of different faith.—
It was a war against an alien race,
Especially against an alien creed ;
When creeds and races battle, that is war !

X.

The church was losing hold along the Seine ;
Her dearest hope was in the colonies,

¹⁷ See Note 2. ¹⁸ In the year 1750 a despatch was sent to the French king, informing him of the work carried on by Le Loutre and his braves against the British; which brought the reply : " I am well pleased with all that you have done."

¹⁹ Twenty years after the first oath had been demanded, Lord Cornwallis again made a proclamation to which he received a reply signed by the crosses of a thousand of the twelve thousand Acadians, declaring that they would not take the oath unless it provided that they should not be required to bear arms.

²⁰ Some French Protestants had found their way to Canada from Rochelle. Readers are referred to Parkman's description of the treatment accorded to them, as well as to no less a man than the *Sieur de Rochelle*, and his proposed expedition from that enterprising city.

²¹ Longfellow's ideal portrait did not include the whole twelve months of the year.