

climate in winter, his discouragement and return to France; the twelve voyages of Champlain, his discoveries and explorations of the great rivers and lakes, his skilful diplomacy in treating and dealing with the Indians, and finally his appointment as Governor-General of Canada; the conquest of Quebec by the English under Kirke, in 1629, its occupation by them for three years, and its restoration to France under the Treaty of St. Germaine-en-Laye.

He then places vividly before the reader the great events and actions of what Lord Lansdowne, on a late occasion at Montreal, rightly styled *the heroic age of Canada*;—the long, fierce struggle with the Indians, then a numerous and most formidable enemy;—the attacks upon the French settlements and posts by tribes coming often from very distant parts of the country, as the Mohawks from the country still bearing their name in Western New York; and the counter expeditions of the French against them to like distant places, through tracts of thickly wooded country, with only the Indian trail for guidance and without horses or carriages, or in canoes over lakes and rivers then recently discovered, and but little known;—their exploration of heretofore unknown lakes and rivers, from the St. Lawrence upward to Lake Superior, and of the country north of it to Hudson's Bay, and southward down the Illinois and Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico; the hardships suffered in these daring expeditions and explorations, and the courage and perseverance displayed in overcoming them;—the victories and defeats, successes and disappointments, incident to these Indian wars;—the various modes and forms of government tried by the adventurers, by the Company of the Hundred Associates, or by the Council appointed by the Crown or Governor; the introduction of the Seigniorial system; the contests of the ecclesiastical and lay elements for supremacy, and especially on the burning question of the prohibition of the sale of liquor to the Indians, in which Frontenac and Bishop Laval took opposite sides, the Governor being the winner:—and, in a word, the cares, labours, trials and vicissitudes of fortune under which were laid the foundations of the land we now live in, and in the narration whereof Mr. Kingsford shows us "*Quantæ molis erat Canadensem condere gentem.*" He intersperses in his narrative incidents of the history of France, and even of England, respecting religious and political events, and throwing light on Canadian history, and short sketches of the lives and characters of those who play part in his drama, and does full justice to the ability and firmness of Frontenac, the indomitable courage and perseverance of De La Salle and his fellow pioneers in discovery, De Tonty, Duluth, Jolliet and others; the ability and religious zeal of Bishop Laval, and the martyr spirit of the Recollets, Jesuits, and religious ladies;—but his hero is Champlain, whom he calls the True Founder of Canada, and whose character and deeds he paints in glowing terms. Indeed, we cannot give our readers a better idea of the spirit and style of Mr. Kingsford's book than by citing the following excerpts from his character of Champlain, which follow the narrative of his death, and the incidents immediately preceding it:

"There are few men whose characteristics can be more distinctly traced than those of Champlain; there are few characters which more satisfactorily sustain the examination bestowed on them. There is no moral leaven to weaken the