

French withstood the many encounters and responded with equal force. The second century offered more advantages to all. The numbers began to increase and multiply, and the country was opened up to a very great radius, thus increasing trade, and spreading the Christian religion over the land. Nevertheless, the prosperity which seemed to prevail was often darkened by the bloody attacks of the fierce Iroquois. The best accounts that we have of those early days are handed down to posterity by the Jesuit Fathers, who endeavoured with the cost of their own lives to preach and teach the Christian religion to this war-like people.

On the other hand, the Iroquois were determined to extricate themselves from the French invaders. In the spring of 1660 a massacre was planned for along the St. Lawrence, but this cruel act was not put into execution. The Hurons and the French endeavoured to drive back their bitter enemies, and as a result of this the treatment received by Dollard and his companions from the Iroquois is a well known incident in Canadian history.

Finally the English were accused by the French king of encouraging the Iroquois in their destructive work, and this led to the declaring of war in 1690. The New England colonists made many fruitless attacks upon French territory. Such was the state of affairs for over half a century, until peace was signed, after the battle of the Plains of Abraham, in 1759. All was lost and won. The French handed over all Canada to the English except a few islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and from that time onward we have fought for the English flag.

From the above sketch we see how much the present population of Canada owe to the French pioneers. We see the many effects of the long and tedious wars; and the hardship and drawbacks which all had to encounter, all on account of the absence of the one essential point, "unity." Then may we voice the sentiments of our great statesmen, in declaring that good understanding between these two races is essential for the welfare of our country. For the old maxim is, "united we stand; divided we fall."

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