

of which the North-West rebellion proved the necessity was a government with eyes and thoughts for something besides the working of the party machine. Nothing seems more certain than that with timely attention to the claims of the Half-breeds and timely lenitives applied to their simple fears, the rebellion might have been prevented and nine millions, besides many lives, saved to the country.

—Of Mr. Kingsford's "History of Canada" it may be said that it is an addition rather to the archives than to the literature of the country. It takes not so much the form of a narrative as that of a thorough and erudite investigation of a series of chapters in our early history. The last chapter dealt with in the last of the three volumes which have at present appeared is the Expulsion of the Acadians. The false and calumnious version of this affair has been made popular by the barley-sugar composition which is styled the poetry of Longfellow. Perhaps the moralists will some day give us, for the benefit of history, their opinion as to the proper limits of lying in verse. The episode, as Mr. Kingsford admits, is painful, but as he clearly proves is not disgraceful to Great Britain. The Acadians were not Arcadians, but very much the reverse, and they were under the influence of incendiary priests. In defiance of treaties they obstinately refused to come into British allegiance, or to abstain from hostile action against Great Britain. As Mr. Kingsford well puts it, they were a party in a besieged fortress conspiring and co-operating with the enemy against the garrison. There was nothing for it but to remove them, and this was done in as humane a way as possible, the only inhumanity shown being on the part of their own kinsmen at Quebec, who received such of them as having escaped deportation made for that Province with the coldest indifference and allowed them to starve. We owe to Sir Adams Archibald the first strenuous confutation of the false belief that England had committed in Acadia a second Massacre of