

chians had disappeared more completely than the Pyrenees in the vision of Louis the Fourteenth. It had taken ninety years from the time when Saint Lusson threw down the gage, for the meteor flag to reach the Sault. Dreuilletes, an old man of eighty-eight, had fallen into his grave at Quebec long before the time when English courage and constancy, which he had so long ago recognized, thus reached its natural goal. The negotiations for a confirmed peace at Paris in 1763 were hardly less cardinal than the defeat of Montcalm at Quebec.

It may excite a smile to-day that Canada should be weighed in the balance against Guadeloupe; but the decision as to which of the two dependencies France should be permitted to retain, was long delayed. The English press teemed with pamphlets in advocacy of one or the other; and not the least effective of them was one by Franklin, urging the retention of Canada as the only security for a peaceful future. The argument for Guadeloupe was not without wisdom in the light of coming events. If the standing menace of Frenchmen on their borders should be removed, it was held that the English colonists would have opportunities to develop independence of the mother-country. But that future does not concern us now, while we ask: To what condition had New France been reduced? She had already secretly anticipated the inevitable, and yielded everything beyond the Mississippi to Spain; and of all the vast domain, bounded by