

eight ships and nearly one thousand men were lost at the entrance of the St. Lawrence, which Phips had passed with ease and safety.

The account of the tragic death of De la Salle is touching and sad, and the summary of his adventures and discoveries very interesting, as is that of his character as a man equal to any amount of adventurous daring, but deficient in that power of winning and keeping respect and affection which ensures unhesitating obedience and faithful service, while he had a haughty manner which excited anger and dislike, under the influence of which he was murdered by two of his own followers. Mr. Kingsford states his belief as to the manner in which De la Salle's movements and conduct were probably influenced by the Spaniard Penatossa, and the expedition under his command.

A short extract from Charlevoix gives a pleasant description of life and society in Canada in 1720 as compared with that in the English settlements, very prettily translated, and by no means unfavourable to our countrymen of that date, and still less to our own countrywomen of the same period.

The account of the death and character of De Frontenac are graphic and fair, with "nothing extenuated nor ought set down in malice;" our author defends him against the charges of extravagant pretensions to power and the adoption of a policy for private ends, of violence of temper, and of exaction of personal consideration without true dignity; adding, that even if these faults be conceded, he still stands forth the most prominent of French Governors, and that the great stain on his name is the ruthless character of the massacres which he authorized; and of this he says: "His nature was genial and kindly, and the fault may be attributed to the school in which he was reared, and the maxim of war there recognized—that anything whatever that caused disaster to an enemy was permissible." Our historian calls him the "Second Founder of Canada," and winds up with Charlevoix's epitaph: "After all, New France owed to him all she was at the time of his death, and the people soon perceived the great void he had left behind him."

As an appendix, Mr. Kingsford has added a full and detailed account of the negotiations and events which led to the Treaty of Utrecht, which had so important effects upon the boundaries of Canada and the then English Colonies, and the terms of which he believes would have been much more favourable to England, if the conduct of the latter years of the war to which it put an end had been left to the Duke of Marlborough, of whom he speaks in terms of the highest admiration, as a general and a man of honour and unswerving fidelity to his country, and whom he holds to have been removed by the sovereign from his command under the influence of mean jealousy and intrigue, and defends from all the charges which had been brought against him, though he acknowledges his love of money to have been inordinate. The chapter is interesting as an essay on a moot point in English history, as well as in relation to Canada. The account is not flattering to the court and sovereigns engaged—corruption was at least as flagrant then as now.

Mr. Kingsford has thus performed the promise he made, and given us a history of Canada during the time over which his two volumes extend, which