

# THE CANADIAN JOURNAL.

No. XXXIX.—MAY, 1862.

NEW SERIES.

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## NOTES ON ANCHOR ICE.

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*Read before the Canadian Institute, February 1st, 1862.*

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THOSE who visit Montreal for the first time during the season of navigation, will be struck with the absence of warehouses upon or near the wharves; and—unless previously informed of the fact—will be surprised to learn that those wharves, at which transatlantic vessels are loading and discharging, are, for four months in the year, invisible,—being submerged from the middle of December until the middle of April:—that the Sault Normand, opposite the city, is obliterated, and that, over the track of that swift current which can now only be stemmed by the most powerful steamers, winter roads for the heaviest description of traffic are regularly *balizéed* out, and maintained, for one-third or one-fourth of the year.

The average winter level of the St. Lawrence, opposite Montreal, is about fifteen feet above the summer one, but the extreme range from the lowest summer level has, at the taking or departure of the ice, sometimes attained a maximum of twenty-five feet.

A full and graphic description of the causes which bring about this