THE CANADIAN SENATOR.

CHAPTER I.

WESTWARD BOUND.

A GROUP of four people sat on the foredeck of one of the steamships of the Canadian Pacific Lake Superior Line as she ploughed her way westward on a certain beautiful

evening in July.

The group consisted of two ladies and two gentlemen. The elder of the ladies would have been termed a handsome woman by two out of every three people who might observe her, albeit her air and appearance of imperious self-confidence would at first sight probably repel rather than attract the majority of persons. Nevertheless, she was a person whom few would pass by without observing. Her looks and manner commanded attention and seemed to demand deference, unless from those whom she was especially desirous of propitiating. Her prominent nose and chin in a face less full and well rounded, and were they separated by smaller and less perfect rows of teeth, would have suggested an early subsidence into a countenance of that variety known as the "nutcracker." Firmly compressed lips intensified the appearance of conscious power. Her figure was generous in outline, and her hair plentifully streaked with grey. Her complexion was Her age, which she could be trusted to keep to