

"DUOIT AMOR PATRIÆ."

THE

British Canadian Review.

FEBRUARY, 1868.

Canadian Names and Surnames.

BY J. M. L.

A CONTRIBUTOR to *Blackwood*, under the heading "The Scot in France," reviewing Mr. Francisque Michel's book, "*Les Ecosais en France*," graphically delineates the honorable part played some centuries back in the affairs of France, by Scotchmen. The learned critic, amongst other things, successfully traces to their origin several modern French names, and clearly demonstrates, after divesting them of the transmogrifications of time and language, that many of these names formerly belonged to brawny, six feet Scotchmen, whom little Johnny Cra-paud, out of spite, had christened on account of their aldermanic appetites "wine bags;" in fact the same distinguished class that we moderns, on the undoubted authority of Judge Barrington, would designate "Twelve bottle men," select individuals scarcely ever heard of in these degenerate teetotal times, and of which class, Marshal de Saxe, Mdle. Lecouvreur's friend, was in the last century a pretty fair representative. Might it not also be worth our while to examine some of the ludicrous changes to which, in our own country, some old names have been subjected? Every one knew that Normandy and Brittany had furnished the chief portion of the earliest settlers of our soil; the exact proportion in which this emigration took place cannot at present be a subject of debate now that we have in print the Abbé Ferlaqd's laborious researches. We accordingly find, in the appendix to the first volume of his "*Cours d'Histoire du Canada*," a list and address of all the French who settled in Lower Canada, from the year 1615 to 1648. No one, perhaps, except a searching student of the Abbé's school, would have