

Reviews and Notices of Books.

THE ICE-BOUND SHIP, and THE DREAM, by W. H. Montreal: Henry Rose. 1860. Quebec: P. Sinclair.

This little "brochure" is from the pen of Mr. William Horsnell, of the Lachine Canal Office, Montreal. It is dedicated to the Honorable John Rose, and we are surprised that we have not seen it until lately. We are afraid that Montreal publishers do not send the best of their literature to our slow old city. This little work has merits. Mr. Horsnell is a poet, and a good one. In the *Ice-bound Ship* the imaginativeness of Mr. Horsnell—the best thing in a poet—shines preeminently. He describes the horrors of a shipwreck in the ice as if he had been there, and perhaps he was. In the *Dream* he has been dreaming of Dante, and we are sorry that he awoke so soon. We shall be happy to see and record more of his dreams, for although they have faults, we are not in the land nor the age when Byron had to write in self-defence, his "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers."

THE EMIGRANT, AND OTHER POEMS.

We hail another Canadian poet in the person of Mr. McLachlan, of Erin village. His last work, the *Emigrant*, and other poems, fairly entitle him to the name which he has acquired, the Canadian Burns, and is a welcome addition to Canadian literature. His power of description is great, and his knowledge of human nature—a great essential in a poet—is evidently greater. His description

"Of the quacks on spoil intent,
That flock'd to our settlement,
Of the swarms of public robbers,
Speculators and land jobbers,
Of the sorry set of teachers,
Of the bogus tribe of preachers,
Of the host of herb physicians,
And of cunning politicians,"

must be read to be appreciated. But many of his pieces want revision, and some of his verses want metre. There is no doubt, however, that he will improve, and Canada should be proud to have him just as he is.