

oak, turned up at both ends, so that when necessary, the craft could also be used as a sledge. The veteran pilot meanwhile intoned the old carol "whose cheerful rhythm keeps time so well with the movement of the paddles":

Il est né, le divin Enfant :
Jouez, hautbois ! résonnez, musettes !
Il est né, le divin Enfant :
Chantons tous son avènement !

During the entire Christmas holiday season, French-Canada, in its "pure array of regal ermine, when the drifted snow envelopes Nature," gives itself up very largely to those forms of social and physical enjoyments which are the more characteristic of its picturesque life and environment. The out-of-door sports include snow-shoeing, sleighing, skating, hockey, curling and dancing on the ice. Clad in raiment befitting the climate, with *ad libitum* accompaniments of the beautiful furs that are here so fashionable and so comparatively inexpensive, discomfort is absolutely unknown, and luxury and exhilaration are the order of the day. The blood tingles with a vigorous sense of pleasure and delight that is unknown in lower latitudes, and that inspires a desire for active participation in out of door exercise and the prevailing sports and pastimes of the people. These are at the same time picturesque, attractive and rational. Strangers who desire to participate in them are warmly welcomed by the different winter clubs and quickly initiated into the various forms of local sport, and each succeeding winter sees an increasing number of American visitors, in search of health and enjoyment, both at Montreal and Quebec,—more especially in the latter mentioned city, which is the more typical of the antiquity and romance that characterize the celebration of a French Canadian Christmas. (1)

(1) The music reproduced in this article is taken, by kind permission of Mr. Ernest Myrand, from his *Noëls anciens de la Nouvelle-France*. Québec, Dussault & Proulx, 1899. 8vo.

