



THE
CANADIAN ANTIQUARIAN
AND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL.

VOL. I.

MONTREAL, JANUARY, 1873.

No. 3.

OLD LANDMARKS ON THE RICHELIEU.

BY JOHN LESPERANCE.



HIS beautiful and historic river, was discovered by Champlain. The founder of Quebec, alarmed at the continual danger of extermination to which his infant colony was exposed from the inructions of the Iroquois, who were furnished with fire arms by the Dutch of New York, resolved on pursuing them into their own country and there bringing them to a decisive battle. In the spring of 1609, accompanied by a party of Hurons and Algonquins, he started for the dreaded land of the Mohawks. At the mouth of the Richelieu river, he stopped to take in a supply of fish and game and consult on a plan of campaign, then ascended it for a distance of forty miles, without meeting with any obstacle. The deep primeval forest hung over him from either bank. He encountered no living thing, except the wild birds on the branches and the stag drinking on the water's edge. Suddenly, in his peaceful advance, he heard the roar of waters tumbling over and among rocks and observed long streaks of foam sweeping past his birch canoe. It was the rapids of Chambly. His party landed, and the In-