

LECTURE II.

C A N A D A W E S T .

(From the Greenock Advertiser, January 27, 1857.)

On Friday night the Sheriff Court Hall was again crowded by a most intelligent audience, to listen to Mr. Campbell's lecture upon Canada West. He was accompanied by Provost Hunter, Bailies Arbuckle and Grey, Councillor Shaw, Messrs. Neill, Sword, Denniston, McFarlane, Welsh, &c.

The Provost, in a few words, introduced Mr. Campbell, who was received with applause, and spoke as follows:—

Mr. Provost Hunter, and Ladies and Gentlemen,—In my former lecture I ran very rapidly over a variety of topics in connection with Lower Canada, but I can assure you that a review of what was then delivered was very far from satisfactory to myself. I had not the requisite time to expend upon discourses of this importance, and I am quite sensible that what I propose to say this evening will exhibit the defects which marked my first effort—defects inseparable from haste, and the necessity of dealing in brief with large and comprehensive subjects. I am not, however, without the hope, that even from these comparatively crude efforts you will learn something relating to Canada, which will enlarge your views of that splendid country, and lead you in future to give the matter more attention than it has perhaps received in the past.

I left off the geographical account of Canada at the point on the St. Lawrence and that on the south bank of the Ottawa, which mark the limits of that section of the Province still known as Canada East; but as before reaching the former point the St. Lawrence presents some peculiarities which have always been deemed of sufficient interest to arrest the attention of visitors, I shall retrace my steps a little, and, as sailors say, take a fresh departure, viz., from Montreal.

The Island of Montreal, as I have already said, is situated at the confluence of the Rivers St. Lawrence and Ottawa, which together form an expanse of water known as Lake St. Louis. Between the western extremity of the Island, and the site of the City of Montreal, the vast body of water which runs down dashes along in a series of rapids known as the Lachine Rapids; and although the steamers from the west run through, or as it is technically called, “shoot” these rapids, they cannot possibly re-ascend them; hence it is necessary that some way of pro-