

ROUTE DOWN THE ST. LAWRENCE.

each year a body of trained *voyageurs* set out hence in large canoes, called *maitres canots*, with packages and goods for the various posts in the wilderness. Two centuries ago, the companions of the explorer Cartier, on arriving here, thought they had discovered a route to China, and expressed their joy in the exclamation of *La Chine*! Hence the present name, or so at least says tradition."

to be met with on the steamers, and in the streets in the cities of Montreal, Quebec, and even in New York, selling their fancy bead-work, etc.

La Prairie is some seven miles below Caughnawaga, or Village of the Rapids, after which the steamer sails on for a few miles, and reaches the City of Montreal.

LACHINE RAPIDS.

PREVIOUS to entering the Lachine Rapids, the tourist may observe the entrance to the aqueduct of the water-works which supplies Montreal with water—a gigantic undertaking, and affording the citizens of that city a never-failing, unlimited supply of good *aqua*.

There are 7 small islands in the channel of the Lachine Rapids. The steamer passes on between Isle du Diable, Isle au Heron, and Isle Boket, and after passing down the rapids, the steamer proceeds along, passing near to Nun's Island, belonging to the Grey Nunnery, Montreal, and one of the many islands which belong, and yield large resources to, the nunneries. A slight rapid, named

NORMAN RAPID, is sailed through, and, after passing that great monument of engineering skill, the Victoria Bridge, the steamer lands her passengers at the wharf of the city of Montreal.