

before I returned to the steamer. You may judge what was then my astonishment to find that my "dear fellow" had been for the last hour worrying and alarming Mrs. H. by pressing her to leave the vessel, telling her that otherwise she would be carried back to Quebec, as he could not possibly wait for my return. I found also that, by his orders, the greater part of my things had been put ashore, and it was fortunate that I was able to return so soon, as our loss from having our things lying on a crowded wharf, intermixed with those of hundreds of others, and almost unlooked after, in place of being, as it was, trifling, would have been probably very serious. The cabin fare was £1. 5s. for each adult.—7s. 6d. steerage. Cabin passengers get breakfast, dinner, and sometimes lunch into the bargain, beside the advantage of a pretty comfortable cubby-house to sleep in; and you are to understand that this is the routine of all the steam-boats along the line.

CHAPTER III.

Well, now that we are at Montreal, the important question is—Where next? For surely you will not stop here or in its neighbourhood. In the first place, they say it is much colder here in winter than in the Upper Province; and in the second place, you can have little business here, or at least, little satisfaction unless you can speak bad French. Besides, if you happen not to be a Roman Catholic, there arises another most serious objection. Popery is the dominant creed, and Spain herself does not, I believe, contain a more numerous or bigoted priesthood—a more formidable machinery of monks and friars, or a more ignorant and priest-ridden population. Processions of the Host are frequent, and the person who, from a just contempt for such juggleries, will refuse to make obeisance as they pass, stands a good chance of becoming entitled to a page in "the Book of Martyrs." Still I would recommend you to halt for a few days, and consider whether this would not be a good opportunity to procure any little article you may have neglected to bring with you.

I presume you are as utterly unacquainted with this