

door life, stories of forest-adventure and wanderings, pleasant sails on beautiful waters, quiet talks with congenial spirits on nature, poetry, romance and the everyday topics which three or four brilliant men might find to talk about at the close of some glorious summer's day in the woods and among the trees. With count Foucault, M. Claudio Jannet, judge Routhier, last July, spent some pleasant days on a trip to Lake St. John, and the incidents of that voyage and the impressions which grew out of it are here set down in a racy, delicious and delightful style. Every page is healthful and buoyant, and treats the reader, as John Burroughs does sometimes, and "Ik Marvel" oftener, to glimpses of things in nature and in every day life, which are all the more enjoyable because they are pointed out by an observant man, whose eye and taste for colour and harmonious tints give an appreciative flavor to his thoughts and ideas. This appreciation finds ready and acceptable expression in all that judge Routhier has to say about the solitary Saguenay, Malbaie, Tadousac, Lake St. John, the Voices of Nature, the Legend of Stella Maris—spiritedly and graphically told—the account of the Montagnais Indians, &c., &c. There are fine descriptive passages here and there, which the reader will love to ponder over, and read again and again. We had marked several of these for quotation, but they should lose so much of their beauty and *verve* in any translation we might make, that we forbear, and invite the attention of our readers to the book itself, where they may taste the honey in all its sweetness and purity, for themselves. The musical and literary *soiree*, which comprises Chapter IV of *En Canot*, introduces the leading poem in the collection, the legend already mentioned, and which is full of imagery and true poetic fire. Further on, in Chapter XII, there are some clever couplets, quatrains and bits of verse, strikingly *apropos*, and all of them bright and delicately worded. Indeed at every turn, one finds in this excellent little story-book of travel, through one of the most picturesque districts of Quebec, something which is interesting, instructive, and entertaining, and which reflects the light-heartedness and buoyant spirits of the author to a high degree. Humor, too,—refined and delicate—is nowhere wanting either, and the chapter entitled: *Un Excentrique* is very neat. It records the experiences of My Lord G. which are very amusing and laughable. Other chapters, which will arrest the reader's eye, are *la Vache-Caille et le Rapide Gervais*—powerfully sketched—*La Venise du lac*, and *Les Premiers Saut*, each of which must add materially to the author's reputation as a descriptive writer. All through the work—from the start of the expedition at Mal-

baie in July, to the return home,—there is not a single dull page. The impression which the perusal of the volume leaves upon the mind of the reader is in all respect pleasurable, kindly and sincerely sympathetic. *En Canot* is neatly published by Ovide Fréchette, in whose name the copyright of the book is taken out, and who has it for sale. It is dedicated to the author's friend and companion during the trip, so graphically described,—the count de Foucault.

From the "Daily Mercury"

LITERATURE.—We have received from Mr O. Fréchette a neat volume entitled "*En Canot*," by the Honorable Mr Justice Routhier, which is an account of a trip to Lake St. John, and dedicated to Count de Foucault, who accompanied the author on the trip so delightfully narrated in these pages, and which commenced at Malbaie on the 30th. July of last year, when the author gives rein to his imagination and descriptive powers in sketching the scenery and attractions between that place and Tadousac, now and then spicing them with sallies of wit. The judge, the Count, and Mr Claudio Jannet seem to have been *bons compagnons de voyage* and to have vied in excelling each other in promoting the flow of soul in repartee, music and intellectual converse. With such the time passes merrily, and poems and airy sonnets are given, whose persual will delight the reader, who cannot but regret, if he be of the same temperament of the travelers, that he formed, not one of them. Prominent among their poetical effusions must be mentioned "*Stella Maris*," robed in affecting imagery and ravishing the reader with its beauty. After reaching Lake St. John the author describes the peculiar customs of the Montagnais Indians. Next is given an amusing account of the eccentricities of a gentleman called Lord G. The glorious scenery in the vicinity is enjoyed by these appreciable tourists, to whom the "voices of nature" had no uncertain sound, but even amidst the excitement of shooting rapids, was responded to by notes of music and poetry. In *La vache caille* and the rapide Gervais wonder and terror are co-mingled, and their joyous spirits were ever uppermost till their canoe voyage terminated at Chicoutimi. In that grand river, the Saguenay, the author is refulgent of ideas, and if such be possible, enhances the stories of the wonderful impressions which are created by the scenery of that weird stream. Those who have visited these places may realize the picture so graphically described