

Book Notices.

My Canadian Journal, 1872-78. Extracts from my Letters Home, written while Lord Dufferin was Governor-General. By the MARCHIONESS OF DUFFERIN AND AVA. Author of "Our Vice-Regal Life in India." With illustrations from sketches by Lord Dufferin, portrait and map. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Toronto: Wm. Briggs.

This daintily printed volume will be highly prized by many Canadian readers. It consists of a series of unconventional letters written by Lady Dufferin to her mother from week to week. They give an inside view to vice-regal life at Rideau Hall and its domestic relations. Lord Dufferin and his charming Countess greatly endeared themselves to all classes of society during their sojourn in Canada. The volume before us describes in a very graceful manner their many journeys throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion, their sporting excursions, their social receptions, the drawing-rooms, dinners and other State functions, their out-of-door winter sports, sea-bathing, football and paper chase matches, and the whole round of vice-regal gaieties.

Everywhere that they went they were met by Irish settlers who had known His Excellency and Countess in dear old Ireland. No Canadian governor ever travelled so extensively in Canada and the United States, nor was received with such *ecclat* in the great cities. Lord Dufferin's happy knack of brilliant speech-making left everywhere a most pleasing impression. The sketches of scenery and humours of American travel, especially of hotel life in Chicago, San Francisco, New York and Boston, are very pleasing reading. At Toronto, to which the Countess pays some very pleasant compliments, a great *contretemps* took place. She was announced to be "at home" to receive visitors, so sat in state, but nobody came. "Has

nobody called?" asked His Lordship. "Oh, yes," said the servant, "but I said, 'Not at home.'" "We found one hundred and four people had recorded their names in the visitor's book, so we had to sit down and write one hundred and four notes to explain."

When Mr. Mackenzie became premier a dinner was given to the new ministers. "I am trying to become a Grit," writes the Countess, "but I can't quite manage it. It takes me as much time as the outside edge backwards. I sat between Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Cartwright; I like them both; the latter is very talkative and pleasant. Mr. Mackenzie is very straightforward and nice, and very Scotch in accent and looks."

The Countess was amused by the unconventional street etiquette in Toronto. While walking with Lord Dufferin a man looked over his shoulder and said, "'It is quite pleasant to see you walking along the street like this,' and then talked to us about our trip, and especially of our reception by the Americans." Of that reception Lady Dufferin says: "I have been sorry to pass so very lightly over the cordiality and the friendliness invariably shown us whenever we crossed our borders into the United States; for whether we were travelling officially through Chicago or Detroit, or went as ordinary visitors to New York or Boston, we were always received with a kindness and hospitality which we can never forget." They called upon the venerable poet Longfellow, and received a souvenir poem.

In the famous club dinner at Toronto, Lord Dufferin, speaking of his extensive tour through the great Northwest, says, "Never has the head of any Government passed through a land so replete with contentment, with the present so pregnant of promise in the future. From the northern forest border lands, whose primeval recesses are being