



THE CRUISE OF THE YACHT "HIRONDELLE" IN 1890.

SUNNY MEMORIES OF MY YOUTH.

A DETACHED CHAPTER OF A COMING BOOK.

BY J. M. LEMOINE, F.R.S.C., QUEBEC.

Basin of St. Thomas, 9th Sept., 1890.

"Well done, Carleton, you have admirably hit the tortuous, intricate channel of St. Thomas; your fifty years' experience with its currents and shoals has indeed done you good service. Put out your kedgeree and we will saunter ashore to the village, and see the sights," thus held forth the commander of the "Hirondelle."

"I say, Mr. Oldbuck, tell us what St. Thomas was like in the days of your youth, when, during the 'rising' of 1837, its *patrotes* were thinking of waging war against the fleets of Britain and the veterans of Waterloo, with wooden cannon—rusty old fire-locks and butchers' knives attached to them in lieu of bayonets, resolved on ruining her

colonial export trade in broad cloth and foreign spirits, by wearing *étouffe du pays* coats and pants, beef moccasins, and drinking small beer only. Could you not, for our edification, describe some of the doings of your early days at the village school, or possibly one of the memorable *grandes chasses d'automne* of Jacques Oliva, the Baron?"

To this touching appeal, J. O. replied:—

"You have, indeed, struck a tender chord in my whole being. How could I forget the ten blissful years of my youth, spent in this sunny spot?—then a mere village—now a thriving shire-town, blessed with a district judge, a court house, and that indispensable adjunct of civilization—a district lock-up. 'Tis now the growing need