

Rapides des Chats.

The *Rapides des Chats* are situated at the Eastern extremity of a magnificent lake, of the same name, which is in fact an extension of the river Ottawa. The shores of the lake Des Chats are woody and generally flat to the northward, with a pebbly or rocky beach; to the southward they are higher, sometimes attaining an elevation of 80 or 100 feet. In extreme length it is fifteen miles, and in mean breadth about one; but its northern shore is deeply indented by several sweeping bays, by which extensive points are formed, sometimes contracting the lake to a width of scarcely a mile, while in others it is three. The surface of the waters is prettily studded with occasional islands, richly wooded, and so situated as to diversify most agreeably the natural beauties of the soft, sweet scenery of the lake. The calms of the Ottawa are peculiarly glassy and beautiful, and its waters are much esteemed for their softness. Between Government Island and the north shore dash, in swift and violent eddies, the *Rapides des Chats*. These rapids are three miles long, and pass amidst a labyrinth of varied islands, until the waters are suddenly precipitated over the falls of the Chats, which are from sixteen to twenty feet in height. There are fifteen or sixteen falls on a curved line across the river, regularly divided by woody islands, over one of which is effected a portage, in passing from the top to the bottom of the falls.—*Selected.*

Lavater—Bad Temper.

Lavater, the famous physiognomist, though an enthusiast, was a kind man, and his wife one of the most amiable of women. One day, his servant asked him, after dinner, if he should sweep his room. Being in rather an irritable mood, he assented pettishly, telling her not to touch his books or papers. When the servant had been gone some time, he said to his wife:

“I am afraid she will cause some confusion up stairs.”

In a few moments his wife, with the best intention, stole out of the room, and told the servant to be careful. Lavater met his wife at the bottom of the stairs, on her return, and exclaimed, as though secretly vexed about something:

“Is not my room swept yet?”

Without waiting an instant, he ran up stairs; and as he entered the room the girl overturned an ink-stand, which was standing on the shelf. She was much terrified. Lavater called out hastily:

“What a stupid beast you are! Have I not positively told you to be careful?”

What followed we will let Lavater tell himself:—

“My wife slowly and timidly followed me up stairs. Instead of being ashamed, my anger broke out anew. I took no notice of her; running to the table lamenting and moaning as if the most important writings had been spoiled, though in reality the ink had touched nothing but a blank sheet and some blotting-paper. The servant watched an opportunity to steal away. My wife approached me with timid gentleness. ‘My dear husband,’ said she. I stared at her with vexation in my looks. She embraced me. I wanted to get out of the way. Her face rested for a few moments on my cheek. At last, with unspeakable tenderness, she said, ‘You will hurt your health my dear.’ I now began to be ashamed. I was silent; and at last began to weep. ‘What a miserable slave to my temper I am! I dare not lift up my eyes. I cannot rid myself of that sinful passion.’ My wife replied, ‘Consider, my dear, how many days and weeks pass away without your being overcome by anger.’ I knelt down beside her, and thanked God sincerely for that hour, and for my wife.”

Hygienics of Temperance.

Under this head Dr. Cartwright, of New Orleans, communicates some valuable statistical information to *The Boston Medical Journal*. Taking the position that nothing tends more to preserve or disturb the harmony of man’s body than water and alcohol, Dr. C. remarks:

“The writer is one of three physicians, who located in Natchez thirty years ago. The new comers found only one practitioner in the city belonging to the same temperance school with themselves. The country and villages within fifteen miles around afforded only three more. All the rest believed in the hygienic virtues of al-