

engagement of twenty-five minutes, the rebels took and made prisoners; upon which Lieut. Belcher of the Volunteer Militia of Cornwallis, with 28 Volunteers, embarked on board an armed sloop at that place, and proceeded down the Bay after the rebels, whom they came up with and re-took Captain Sheffield's vessel, after killing one rebel. The rebels took their whaleboats and ran ashore at Cape Split, where Lieut. Belcher could not follow them. After which he gave chase to the vessel taken from Captain Bishop, upon which Captain Bishop discovered the vessel coming after them, rose upon the rebels and re-took the vessel." Shortly after this affair, the Charleston frigate, Captain Evans, came into Halifax in company with the sloop-of-war "Atlanta," which had been taken by the rebel frigate "Alliance." On the 16th of June she again sailed on a cruise, and captured the rebel privateers "Flying Fish" and "Yankee Horn." On the 19th of the same month, while convoying transports in company with the "Vulture" and an armed Nova Scotia ship, the "Jack," the "Charleston" discovered two French frigates near what is now named Sydney, Cape Breton. Captain Evans having signalized the transports to make for port, he most gallantly, with his inferior force, bore down upon the enemy. Sometime after the action began, Captain Evans was killed by a cannon shot. Mr. McKay, the next officer of the "Charleston," under the direction of Captain George, of the "Vulture," continued the action with the greatest coolness and bravery. On board the "Vulture" were the 70th Regiment. Notwithstanding the French were superior in weight of metal, men and size of the ships, they gave way to the obstinate defence of the English and sheered off. Captain Tonge, of the "Jack," the Nova Scotian ship, who was in this engagement, says in his log:—"I had John McKay killed, James Gormory, who was at the helm, mortally wounded upon the quarter deck; and William Clarke, wounded upon the main deck." Captain Tonge belonged to a well known Nova Scotia family. His father, Wicworth Tonge, Sr., is buried in St. Paul's Cemetery. He was an Irishman, and an officer of the Engineers at the siege of Louisburg. During the operations before this famous fortress, for his skill and bravery, he won the approbation of General Wolfe. After the Seven Years' war, he settled in Hants County, and was, until up to the time of his death, Naval Officer of the Province.

Capt. Evans, of the "Charleston," is buried under St. Paul's Church, where a tablet to his memory has been erected.