

the blooming Miss Simpson, a daughter of Sandy Simpson, one of Wolfe's provost marshals. Miss Simpson afterwards married Col. Matthews, Governor of the Chelsea pensioners, and died speaking tenderly of her first love, the hero of Trafalgar."

Sir James wrote a novelette on the subject in the "Revue Canadienne" in 1867, which was amended and corrected (after being incorporated in the "Maple Leaves") in the "Tourist's Notes Book," issued in 1876, and also, as we have seen, in the "Chronicles of the St. Lawrence" in 1878. At p. 233 of "Picturesque Quebec," Sir James says:—"Whether it was Alexander Davidson, as Southey suggests, or another Quebecer of note, in 1782, Matthew Lymburner, as Lt.-Col. John Sewell, on the faith of Hon. W. Smith, the historian of Canada, stated to us, is of minor importance. One thing is certain some thoughtful friend in 1782, extricated the impulsive Horatio from 'the tangles of of Neera's hair,' in the port of Quebec. The hand of fate had marked the future Captain of the *Victory*, not as the Romeo of a Canadian Juliet, but as the paramour of Lady Emma Hamilton. Alas! for her fair fame! It seems certain that the Commander of the *Albemarle*, during his repeated visits to our port in July, September and October, 1782, became acquainted with "sweet sixteen," (he himself was but twenty-four) in the person of Miss Mary Simpson, the daughter of an old Highlandman, Sandy Simpson."

An old gentleman of Quebec, wrote, in 1876, to Sir James LeMoine that his "mother well recollected having seen Nelson when, in 1782, he commanded the sloop-of-war *Albemarle*. He was erect," she said, "stern of aspect, and wore, as was then customary, the 'queue,' or 'pigtail.' Her idea of the Quebec young lady to whom he had taken such a violent fancy, was, that her name was Woolsey—an aunt or elder sister, perhaps, of the late John W. Woolsey, President for some years of the Quebec Bank, who died in 1852 at a very advanced age." Other writers have asserted that the young lady was Miss Prentice, one of the nieces of Miles Prentice. After reading all that has been written on the subject, I am of opinion that Sir James LeMoine was correct in his "attempt to unravel the tangles of this attractive web," and that the heroine of Captain Nelson's adventure was undoubtedly Miss Mary Simpson.—Editor of *Notes and Queries*.—*Star*, 5th January, 1901.

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## THE GREAT EASTERN.

The *Great Eastern*, originally to be called the *Leviathan*, was commenced building, at Millwall, on the Thames, by Mr. Scott-Russell, on the 1st May, 1854, on a design by Isambard