

teil, L'Abbé Ferland,* shall have completed his patient and laborious researches about the primitive times of Canada, one will be able to determine the exact amount of truth and fiction which form the component elements of the legends of the St. Lawrence.*

*The *Soirées Canadiennes* for October, 1861, contain the following passage :—

" We are, says l'abbé Ferland, opposite the River Magdeleine, famous in the chronicles of the country, for ghost stories connected with it.

Where is the Canadian sailor, familiar with this coast, who has not heard of the plaintive sounds and doleful cries uttered by the *Brillard de la Magdeleine*? Where would you find a native seaman who would consent to spend a few days, by himself in this locality, wherein a troubled spirit seeks to make known the torments it endures? Is it the soul of a shipwrecked mariner asking for christian burial for its bones, or imploring the prayers of the church for its repose? Is it the voice of the murderer condemned to expiate his crime on the very spot which witnessed its commission? . . . For it is well known that Gaspé wreckers have not always contented themselves with robbery and pillage, but have sometimes sought concealment and impunity by making away with victims,—convinced, that the tomb is silent and reveals not its secrets. Or else, is this the celebrated Devil's Land mentioned by the cosmographer