

sent down the rapids and over the cataract with a crew of furious animals on board. Thousands of people from all parts of the country journeyed to Niagara to see that spectacle and on the 8th day of September the brig Michigan, a condemned vessel, was sent over the cataract. On board the vessel was a crew in effigy, an old buffalo, an old and young bear, a fox, raccoon, eagle, two geese and a dog. The young bear escaped from the vessel before the falls was reached, and succeeded in swimming ashore; the rest were carried off with the vessel over the falls. One goose was recovered below, the only survivor of those that made the descent.

The exhibition created so much excitement that Sam Patch determined to outdo it. Proclaiming as his motto "that some things can be done as well as some others," he avowed his determination to take a leap from the top of Niagara Falls to the river below. On his way to Niagara Sam gave exhibitions wherever he could find a suitable place. Coming to Rochester he undertook to leap the falls of the Genesee, a height of one hundred feet. As part of the show Sam had a pet bear which he invariably caused to make the first leap. His first exhibition at Rochester was given in the presence of a large number of spectators, the banks of the river being crowded. Ascending the heights at the place selected dragging his bear after him, he calmly surveyed the crowd below him and then shoved reluctant bruin off the ledge into the depths below.

The animals descent was successful and he swam ashore.

Then Sam followed him. Leaping straight down

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