LE CHIEN D'OR OF QUEBEC.

A LEGEND OF INJURY AND REVENGE.

The famous Chien d'Or, or Golden Dog, of Quebec is a rude stone carving, gilded, and now built into the wall above the entrance to the new city Postoffice. Beneath the crouching dog's figure is this inscription in old French :—

"Je Svis Vn Chien Ronge L'os
En le rougeant je prends mon Repos,
Vn temps viendra qvi n'est pas venv,
Qve je morderay qvi mavra mordv,"

Signifying, "I bide my time," or, more literally,

"I am a dog gnawing a bone,
While gnawing it I take my rest,
A time will come, which has not yet,
When I will bite who have bitten me."

In the opinion of some of the best Canadian antiquaries the sculpture was originally, and should be now called La Chien qui dort (the dog who sleeps) and perhaps the carving was designed from recollection of the proverb concerning the danger of waking sleeping dogs. The stone has obtained the name of le Chien d'Or because gilded ever since it began to be talked about.

The legend of injury, resentment, treachery, and revenge connected with it states that M. Nicolas Jaquin Philibert, a wealthy merchant of Quebec, placed the carving and incription over the door of his own house (which, before its destruction became a Freemason's hall, and still later was used as the city postoffice)—to signify his hatred for M. Francois Bigot, of evil memory, the 13th and last Intendant of New France. What Bigot had done to rouse Philibert's enmity is not stated, but conjecture may easily find a motive in the Intendant's record. Fond of display, an inveterate gambler, graceful, a bachelor, and a terrible fellow among the ladies, Bigot found the emoluments pertaining to his great office a mere bagatelle in comparison with his expenditure. Clothed with official rank second only to that of the Governor, and with power greater in many respects; controlling the finances, the administration of justice, and the trade of the colony ; possessing the favour of Madame de Pompadour, then regnant over Louis XV., practiced as Intendant of Louisiana and of Louisbourg (where his tyrannies contributed materially to the capture of the place by the British) in all the bad uses of power; Bigot, on landing at Quebec in 1748, straightway proceeded to organize a ring, the history of which might have given Boss Tweed valuable hints in the art of peculation. With the aid of shrewd rascals recommended to Bigot, so the old record remarks "by ignorance and low birth," he accomplished the plundering of the home government, the inhabitants and the merchants of the colony so satisfactorily that he was able to defray the expenses of a miniature French court at Quebec, with its accompaniment of a considerable harem. His Pompadour was Madame Hugues Pean, nee Angelique de Meloises, the young, pretty, witty wife of Town-Major Pean, otherwise useful to Bigot as right-hand in his oppressions and knaveries.

Col. de Bougainville, returning from Paris with dispatches announcing the coming invasion of Wolfe, found the wicked Intendant quartered with Madame Pean. He seems indeed to have had a knack of discovering valuable creatures in men with handsome wives. Cadet, whose contract for supplying the army with meat was a fat one, possessed a wife known as La Belle Amazone Aventuriere, and if Duchesneau, the cobler's son, owned no such recommendation to unscrupulousness as to have publicly boasted that "to get rich he would cheerfully rob a church"

Whether Philibert had been fleeced by Bigot, or offended by the libertine's advances toward a female relation, or merely scandalized by the great man's outrageous tyrannies, the legend makes no mention. Some serious affront the merchant must be supposed to have suffered from the Intendant, else Bigot could not have seen in the Chien d'Or a declaration of undying hatred against himself. He took umbrage, however, the story says, and by way of giving Philibert new reason for animosity, quartered troops on him. The officer in command was one of Bigot's boon companions, Monsieur de Repentigny, of noble family. By one account Philibert resisted entrance to his house, and in the struggle was run through by de Repentigny's sword. Another narrative makes the officer murder the merchant foully while descending the lower town hall. Both agree that Philibert was killed; that de Repentigny fled, either to France or Acadie; that he received pardon from the King through Bigot's influence with the Pompadour; that he returned to Quebec and either offered or complied with an order to give pecuniary compensation to the widow for the loss of her husband. Afterward he was promoted and sent on service to the East Indies, where Dupleix, as Governor of Pondicherry, was then attempting to develop those magnificent plans for the advancement of the French power which were rendered mere dreams by the genius of Clive.

It does not appear that Bigot was called to account in any way for the murder, which the legend supposes him to have instigated. In the midst of an overridden, starving population, he continued to live a merry, wicked, gainful life, of which we got an interesting glimpse on the memoir of Monsieur Frauquet, inspector of fortifications, who describes himself as right royally treated, during this visit to Quebec, by the intendant. Among other pleasures Bigot treated him to a voyage to Montreal on the Government batteau, Gondola, a long, flat comfortable craft of 80 tons burthen, propelled by sails and fourteen rowers. Provisioned with all manner of delicate viands and choice wines, extremely festive days and nights were enjoyed under a canopied space in the middle, enclosed by curtains and cushioned with blue silk.

Also Mousieur Frauquet dwells fondly on the lively times he had with the jolly and pretty ladies of Monsieur Bigot's court, at Quebec and Trois Revieres.

But Philibert's death was to be avenged. The usual and most dramatic version of the legend is that his son, a boy of eleven years when the murder was committed, of austere disposition, brooded over purposes of revenge till he had arrived at manhood. It does not appear that he designed to include Bigot in his vengeance. Suddenly quitting Quebec all trace of him was lost for many months. Then his mother received a letter, "My dearest mother, we are avenged. My father's murderer is no more." Pursuing de Repentigny to the east, the young man had met him in a street of Pondicherry and killed him in the combat that instantly ensued.

Another story, heard by Hawkins in Quebec fifty years ago, differs widely from this. It states that the murdered merchant's brother coming out from France to settle his estate, became so bent on revenge that he pursued de Repentigny to Pondicherry and duly slew him.

Sceptical antiquaries again believe the main features of the legend to be pure fiction, obtaining form through the popular effort to account for the remarkable Chien d'Or and curious inscription. That the house from which the stone wall removed to its present position belonged to a Philibert or Philiber, is, however, certain. When pulled down in 1871, the workmen found the following record on the corner stone:—

"NICOLAS JAQVIN
dit Philibert
m'a pose 20 Aost
1735.

I have found no morsel of proof that le Chien d'Or was not built into the house when completed in 1736. Rude sculptures akin to heraldic devices were not uncommonly placed over the doors of the bourgeoisie in the old time before us. If the Jaquin family were proud of a record signifying them to be good haters, the dog and inscription might easily be accounted for, and the assumption that the carving dates from 1736 would be very strong. In that case the tale of Bigot's annoyance thereby would fail, as he did not land in Quebec till 1748.

Without reference to the wicked Intendant's fate the story would be incomplete. Held responsible on his return to France for the disorganization and disaffection which had assisted the British conquest of Canada, Bigot was placed in the Bastile to await trial. Afterward, with a host of accomplices, he was charged with innumerable offences, summed up again and again in the court record as *m nopoles, abus. Vexations et prevarications* — found guilty, stripped of his all stealings, and sentenced to perpetual banishment from the kingdom.

One interesting incident of his trial was a petition of the mother and widow of the Marquis de Montcalm that Bigot should be punished for having libelled the dead hero in a justificatory memoir published by him on his return to France. The ladies demanded the memoir's suppression and Bigot's condemnation to pay a fine of 10,000 livres for the benefit of the poor of the Hotel Dieu. As he had already been beggared for the benefit of the Crown, the poor got nothing, but the court ordered the suppression of the injurious terms applied to Montcalm, in particular that of "*delateur*" (informer), and granted the ladies permission to publish the judgment, apparently at their own expense.

As Usual.

THE DIFFICULTIES OF KEEPING SOBER IN A MASSACHUSETTS TEMPERANCE FAMILY.

Uncle Tom Saunders was a thrifty farmer in the Connecticut River Valley, owning a fine "place" in old Hampshire county. Massachusetts. Brother Billy Saunders went to the Southern States and settled when a young man, where he reared a family, and although there was a correspondence kept up, no visits passed between the two families for more than twenty-five years.

A year or two after the Maine law went into force in Massachusetts, Cousin Joe Saunders, from the South, a handsome, manly young fellow, "came North" to visit his relatives. He arrived at Uncle Tom's house about nightfall, in haying time, and was heartily welcomed by uncle, aunt and cousins. Then after a chat about the folks, Cousin Joe went to sleep in the "spare bed room," with feathers and pillows enough for two, and did not get up until 9 o'clock the next morning.

He told the story on himself afterward. When he came down the first one to welcome him was Aunt Hannah, who, after the usual good-morning, said :

"Joseph, I suppose that your customs in the South in many ways are different from ours. Are you in the habit of drinking something a little strengthenin' and appetizin' in the mornin'?"

Joe signified that such was a habit with him sometimes.

"Well, we are all temperance folks here, but I've got a little bottle of 'sperrits' that Dr. Billin's gave me for the hypo, that I keep in the buttery. Here it is, Joseph ; help yourself."

Joe was nothing loth, and, thinking that he probably would not have another such an opportunity during his visit, he took a liberal sniffer, and after finishing breakfast, which had been kept for him, finding himself doubly refreshed, strolled out toward the barn, where Uncle Tom was busy at work.

"Mornin', Joe," said his uncle cheerily; "say, come here." Then he led Joe into the granary and said in a confidential kind of way, "You know, I 'spose, that we're all temperance folks, but I've got a little old apple jack behind that bin there, that I kinder keep for my roomatiz, away from the old woman and the boys. 'Spose we take a horn apiece, you and I. It's pretty good stuff."

Nothing loth Joe imbibed again, and feeling still more exhilarated, started down into the meadow where the boys were at work in the hay-field.

"Good morning, cousin Joe," sung out the oldest, as Joe came along. "How are you feeling this morning? Say, Joe, don't you Southern fellows take a little eye-opener occasionally? You see, this 'ere is a temperance State, and father and mother are bright and shinin' lights. But we boys ain't—that is, we ain't practically. Just you go to that corner of the fence, and under Jim's jacket you'll find a jug of as good old Jamaica as you have tasted in a year. I'll go with you. Take hold, Joe, it's out of sight of the house."

Joe complied, and the operation was repeated once or twice before dinner time. He managed to get through the meal without incurring suspicion as to his actual condition, thanks to a somewhat extensive capacity, and stayed a week with the good folks. But he said afterward that he never came so near being on a week's solid drunk as he did during the time of his visit to that "temperance family."

DEADENING THE SOUND OF CIRCULAR SAWS.—The circular saw frame should be fixed on a brick or stone bed, and the shaft or bearings kept clear of the wall, so that the sound is not carried by contract into the wall. If the wall is not built, we recommend a hollow wall with iron ties, and the space filled with sawdust, no opening of any kind being made. If the wall is built, and of a single brick-line it with another single brick wall, inserting sawdust between, or a layer of hair felt. If the wall is wood quartering, lath and plaster it on both sides and fill in between with sawdust, or coat over the studding with hair felt, and lath and plaster over the face of it. In fixing the quartering, if attached to wood at the top or bottom bed the attaching points, or parts, in hair felt. Sound will travel with air, therefore exclude all connection of air. Sound will travel through glass, wood or stone, except it be of great thickness; therefore, intercept it by sawdust or hair felt, which are non-conductors. If you have a circular saw on one side of a wall, and you want a point of silence on the other, you must stop all direct communication, and cause the sound-laden air to travel in long and circuitous routes, and give out its vibrations before it reaches that point.—*Timber, London, England.*

A LARGE CONSIGNMENT OF GOLD.—Five tons of gold have been brought from England and deposited in the strong room of the Bank of Ireland. The treasure, which consisted of five hundred thousand sovereigns, was landed from the steamer at the North Wall, and in small boxes, placed on five floats, which, guarded by detectives in plain clothes, proceeded along the quays to the Bank in College Green. The transfer of the bullion was conducted with the greatest secrecy, none but the bank authorities being aware of its removal.

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Douglastown, August 26, 1885

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Flour, Pork, Fish, Etc.
200 Bbls. Brown FLOUR;
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125 bbls. CORN MEAL.
50 do. MESS PORK.
150 Quintals new CODFISH.
40 Cases CANNED OYSTERS.
10 do do LOBSTERS.
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New devices for convenience on Wash day—save labor and lighten the work left to be done.
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Eureka double strength, White Wine XXX
Cider, superior quality. do do XX
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400 PUNCHEONS Choice Barbadoes Molasses now landing.
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The house and premises now occupied by D. G. Smith Esq. Apply to
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Chatham, August 11th, 1885.

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Latest Styles Ladies' and Gents' Kid Boots and Slippers
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Sugar Corn, Tomatoes,
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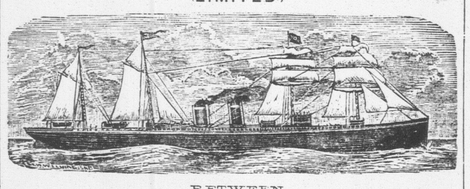
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YELLOW METAL—Rods and Sheathing
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Anchors, Oakum, Pitch, Tar, Spikes, Hemp and Manilla Cordage all of best quality and
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he will sell Dry Goods at prices that cannot fail to give satisfaction to every one. I have just received a portion of my new fall stock, and solicit an inspection of the same.

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All Princess Louise make and for finish cannot be equalled.

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White Electorals, from 25c. to 45c.
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Away down in prices, commencing at 5c. yer yd.
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A small lot of overcoats bought very low, and which I intend selling lower. A good strong tweed overcoat, tweed lined,
OVERCOAT FOR $6.15.
Call and see them, the best bargains ever offered.
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Small profits, quick returns, and no losses.
I sell for cash.
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Sept. 10th 1885 NEWCASTLE

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DRESS MATERIALS
in all the fashionable Materials and Shades
Black Satin Soleile, Black Satin Berber, Black French Cords, Black Cashmere, all wool, do do Union, Black French Merinoes, Black Serge, all wool.
Colored Checked Cashmere, col'd Satin Berber, col'd French Cords, col'd Cashmeres, all wool, do do, Union, col'd Melton Cloths, col'd Serges, all wool. Trimmings to match.
Landsdowne Velveteens! Landsdowne Velveteens!
15 pcs. Bl'k from 35c. to $1.20. 10 pcs. col'd from 60c. to $1.25
LADIES' GOSSAMERS,
Ladies' Cashmere Jersey Gloves
in black and colored.
Latest styles Ladies' Linen Collars, Ladies' Cashmere Hose, black and colored, Ladies' and Misses' Seamless Wool Hose, Ladies' and Misses' Jerseys, Ladies' and Misses' Under Vests, Ladies' and Misses' Polka Jackets.
A very nice line of Ladies' Promenade or Opera Shawls, Highland and Saxony knitting yarn, in all colors.
A full line of Staple Goods
In Blankets, Flannels, Flannel Shirts, Underwear, Scotch and Canadian knit. Men's Cashmere Hose, Men's Cardigans and Guernseys.
A beautiful line of Suitings and over-Coatings, which we will make up to order at low prices.
Purchasers will save money by calling and examining our stock before purchasing elsewhere, as we are offering these goods very low for cash.
Call and inspect. No trouble to show our goods ; they will speak for themselves.
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