

billow, raging and boiling, and unmistakably threatening destruction to anything falling into its dreadful vortex. The place into which the hurrying water falls to work itself into this ungovernable rage is called the "Cellar," and the white-crested, threatening breaker which never ceases,—never rests—never pities, is called the "Big Chute."

Some little time before the events recorded had occurred, a party of thirty men, well-armed, had been sent on an expedition to the Canadian frontier from the British provinces, but for what purpose or by whom sent is not very clear; although it would appear that the leader had instructions to look particularly about the location and defences of the Frontenac post, and the report thereon seems to have been made to Governor Shirley, of Massachusetts, who subsequently had command of the force sent against the place. This party had been one day in advance of the "Marie," and, finding a pretty spot with a charming look-out at the foot of Croil's island, had taken their two boats on shore with the intention of remaining at the place two or three days. The evening following that on which they had landed, as they were quietly enjoying the delightful prospect spread out before them, which a gorgeous sunset was rendering even more beautiful, they heard the unusual sounds of human voices, singing and talking in a tongue foreign to them. They at once knew the strangers to be Frenchmen, and the leader, taking in at a glance their strength and the resistance likely to be made, determined to give chase. The boats were soon manned, and in pursuit of the "Marie," with a fair prospect of overhauling her, as they were light and strongly manned, while she was carrying weight, and her crew fewer in number than the pursuers, and withal wearied with the long day's work. Grichard felt himself unable to cope with such an adversary, and, as his only hope, which was indeed but slight, lay in his being able to keep in advance until something might transpire to his advantage, he urged his men to the

greatest exertion; and, for some little time, the distance between the boats did not very rapidly lessen. Grichard observed that they were in swifter water than they had yet passed through; he heard the roar of the breakers, and saw the white water in the distance; but trusting that it would be not much worse than that they had already passed in safety, and fearing more the certain danger behind him than the uncertain danger before, he did not slacken speed or cease to urge the tired rowers until he saw that the "Marie" was driving at a frightful speed towards a most dangerous-looking cascade; and, although he now put down his helm and the men made the most frantic exertions to avoid the roughest water, they could do nothing. The boat drove with great velocity. The men involuntarily ceased rowing, and, thoroughly paralyzed with fear, looked at each other and at their rapidly approaching fate with silent despair. Nearer, and still more rapidly, the richly-freighted but ill-omened French vessel approached the terrible Chute, into which she plunged, disappearing at once and forever from view. At the last moment, and before the seething Chute had closed over the unfortunate voyageurs, they gave a loud and wailing shout, which was their last and despairing appeal for aid.

The pursuing boats, so tragically forewarned, by dint of the greatest efforts succeeded in reaching the southern shore, but a short distance above the rough water, escaping, although narrowly, the dreadful fate which they had been the means of bringing upon the Frenchmen.

There is to this day a legend among the old inhabitants in the vicinity of the Sault, which takes its origin from the events we have related, and the writer has heard one old man—who has since passed to his rest—affirm, most stoutly, that yearly—on the anniversary of the day on which the "Marie" met so dreadful a fate—some time after night, a phantom boat, with spectral rowers, is to be seen coming swiftly down the stream, and plunging into the Chute. It is also said that lights are frequently seen above