

REVOLUTIONARY RELICS.

COLLECTED BY CHARLES HEAVYSEGE, AUTHOR OF "SAUL," "JEPHTHA'S DAUGHTER," &c.

"How many a sad and stirring tale
Of white man's wo, of Indian's wall,
Still lingers here, on hill, in vale!"

About the Bay of Quinté and the County of Prince Edward (Ont.) there linger even yet those who can tell of many a sad episode of the American Revolutionary war, and of a struggle which drove them or their fathers to seek a home in Canada. Being recently in that region we met with a very intelligent gentleman, 82 years of age, who related to us the following thrilling incidents, and for greater accuracy, at our request, afterwards committed them to writing in their present form.

In the year 1765 Thomas Smith and his family and John Collins and his family left Lincolnshire, England, and sailed for America, and, after a tedious voyage of nine weeks, landed at New York. From thence they sailed up the Hudson as far as Half Moon Point (now called Waterford) at the junction of the Mohawk with the North Branch of the Hudson River.

Having conversed with many persons since their arrival in America, although they were near neighbors in the old country, and had agreed to settle near each other in America, Smith concluded to go up the North Branch, and Collins to go up the West Branch, or Mohawk River, the two making a new agreement to visit each other as soon as circumstances would allow.

Collins settled in Schoharie County, about fifty miles from Albany; and Smith settled in Saratoga County, near Saratoga Springs, twenty-four miles from Albany.

In the spring of 1776 Collins and his wife visited Smith's family at Saratoga. Collins's family consisted of himself, wife, and four boys, whilst Smith's consisted of himself, wife, and five girls and one boy. After much persuasion Mrs. Smith consent-

ed to let one of her girls, aged twelve years, go home with Mrs. Collins, under a promise from the latter to bring her back in one year; but, alas! the Smiths never saw Collins or any of his family again,

In about two months after Collins had returned home, war broke out between the Colonies and Great Britain, and all communication was cut off between the two English friends. About the first of October, 1777, the military authorities at Albany notified the inhabitants of the surrounding country that an Indian raid was expected from Canada, and advised their immediate retreat to Albany for safety.

Smith and his family started immediately and arrived in safety; Collins and his family made all possible haste, but the night before the day on which they intended to start, Indians from Montreal (guided by one George Magin, who had lived many years in Collins's neighborhood, but had in the beginning of the Revolutionary war joined the Tories, and now returned as guide for these Indians, burning houses and killing his old neighbors), burst into the house and murdered Mr. and Mrs. Collins and their four sons. Nancy Smith had concealed herself behind her bedroom door, when the Indians threw a straw-bed on the fire, making a great light; she rushed out of doors, and was met by an Indian, who raised his tomahawk to kill her; but a squaw that was in the company for the purpose of carrying plunder, struck her on the shoulder, saying in the Indian tongue "My daughter." The squaw had lost her daughter a few weeks before, and now adopted Nancy Smith in her stead.

This was the last house the raiders visited for the sake of destruction and plunder, and they straightway started in return to Fort Stanwix, now called Rome, sixteen