

THE MYSTERY OF CANGUAL ISLAND.

Fort Halifax was one of the frontier forts which were established by the Colonial Government of Pennsylvania in 1753. It served the double purpose of a supply station and a protection for the colonists against Indian raids. It was situated on the left bank of the Susquehanna river, a large island lying between it and the other shore. As the boat channel lay on the other side of this island it was necessary to post a sentinel on the island to report the passage of any armed expeditions up or down the river.

The summer of 17— passed very quietly at the fort. The Indians seemed to be keeping true to their treaty for they had made no demonstrations against the settlers for a long time. One evening when the relief went over to the island to bring back the sentinel they found him lying on the ground with an arrow in his back, dead. Although they searched everywhere, they could find no traces of Indians. The next day the captain, fearing a repetition of the act and knowing that the watch must be kept, posted two trusty men at the lookout.

The soldiers at the fort spent an anxious day awaiting news from the two guards. They did not have long to wait; for shortly after noon a boat was seen coming from the island. The man proved to be one of the guards. He related how that his comrade had been shot down while standing before the fire, but that even he could not tell from whence the arrow had come. The Colonial soldiers were brave men but they shook with fear at the thought of exposing themselves to this ghost-like foe.

"Men," said Captain Patterson, "I will not ask you to go where I dare not go myself, but this redskin must be caught, so follow me." Taking half his men he led them across the river.

They searched every part of the island but when night