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My temptation was to get aboard the steamer which runs on a course north three-quarters east from Cranberry, a course which just shaves the promontory of Smoky and throws you into the mouth of South Bay of Ingonish. There were a score of other things that I should have attended to, but temptation said go--and I went. When off Cranberry I came around to see what the mate was doing with the ship. It was thick and hazy ahead and no land in sight, but I am familiar with this old road and I concluded the ship was about ten points out of the course. The mate looked at the compass, and with an irritating manner of confidence said, "North three-quarters east." "North three-quarters east be darned," says I. "This ship is going to hit the North Shore right opposite the French River Church." "This ship is heading north three-quarters east and will just pass Smoky," said the mate. Well the mate and the compass were right and I was wrong. But this is not the first time I have been ten points off the true course. It has happened to me before in law, politics, religion, economics and swapping horses. If it would only prove to be my last error in judgment I would soon have the world's premiers and preachers sitting at my feet to learn wisdom. The sun was loitering above the billowy folds of the dark robed mountains as the heaving line spun across the wharf and the steamer quietly swung up against her mooring on that glorious Saturday night. On sea and shore and mountain was spread the bewitching glamor of a summer night at the seaside. From the farthest sombre peak behind the pale crescent of the moon, out to where the lazy waters of the bay lapped aimlessly on rock and sand there seemed spread over all something that might be seen by sightseers eyes and felt by the nerveless fingers of the dead. With such, language is a lost art and poets are wingless mocking birds. Accidents are incidental to travel and incidents are accidents to the aimless wanderers. On this occasion I had my first view of a sea serpent. I may as well confess that I never believed in the existence of such a creature. But this is what I saw. Out in the waters of the bay, about three hundred yards from the shore, there was something disturbing the water. At times at one end of the disturbance a black object would protrude from the water, and at the same time along the line of disturbance there appeared other spots, they would protrude from the water, and look like a snake fence viewed across a grain-field. Suddenly this whole mass, process-

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