

laden with forest fragrance, to the close atmosphere of the "inn," sat down with folded arms on a mossy log, under a spreading maple, whose fallen tasselled blossoms strewed the ground around him. His depressed air and contracted brow showed that his meditations were not specially agreeable, and if his inward soliloquy had found expression, it would have run somewhat in this wise :—

"So this is the way I've got to serve my king and country ! Bumping over logs and through marshes, among savages and wildernesses ; to be buried alive in these out-of-the-way backwoods, just when Europe's all astir, and there are such grand opportunities for winning honour and promotion ! It *is* hard upon a man, after being disabled so long, and dreaming of real work and glory, to be out here in this sort of exile. If I had only been in the 45th now, with Harry Dacre and Jack Hunsden and the rest of them, I might at this moment be with Lord Wellington in Spain ; and won't they have a grand time of it !"

Captain Percival was joining, for the first time, his regiment in Canada. The injuries occasioned by a fall from his horse in hunting had caused a long period of forced inactivity, and detained him unwillingly at home on sick leave. But, now that he was again fit for active duty, it was only with great reluctance, and after several unsuccessful endeavors to exchange into a regiment more likely to see service in Europe, that he had yielded to circumstances, and come to what was considered little better than