

*Silence.*

THERE cannot be a more unprincipled and vicious set of men than the whites who dwell on the boundaries between civilized men and the Indians: they rob, murder, and betray them; and in return, taking a dreadful revenge for many unprovoked attacks, the Indians frequently destroy, not only their persecutors, but their whole families with them.

Virginia, so named in honour of Queen Elizabeth, was first settled by English colonists about two hundred and fifty years ago. On one particular occasion, Colonel Bird was employed by the English government to transact some business with a tribe of Cherokee Indians. It unfortunately happened that a short time before he went amongst them, some white people had seized two Indians who had given them some trifling offence, and had most unjustly put them to death, and the Indians, naturally made angry at such an outrage, determined upon taking revenge, whenever an opportunity should offer.

The wished for opportunity was now presented by the appearance of Colonel Bird among them, and private consultation was held by their aged men, as to the most effectual means of getting him into their power, and making him the sacrifice.

Their unfriendly intentions were soon perceived by Colonel Bird, who, although he was by no means deficient in courage, felt that he had just cause of alarm: for he knew he was in their power, without means either of escape or defence. On retiring to rest he could not help reflecting that before morning he might be scalped, or what was worse, retained a prisoner to be tortured for their savage amusement. Several nights were passed in