

"I thank you for your frankness," said the young officer. "I am, as you perhaps know, not long out from the Old Country, where my life in the army has prevented my studying over much of civil affairs. But I find the present Governor a brave, wise soldier, and a kindly gentleman, one desirous of doing his duty in governing this country by settling it, and holding it for his King. If it is as you say, that there are those about him who keep the emoluments to themselves, he can scarcely be blamed, seeing these men are also of the people, and represent them in his councils. You would not surely have him govern without his advisors. But the hour grows late, and I have my journey before me."

"You will find it the worst portion, too," said the preacher significantly, "and, if I might make so free, beware of those whom you may meet on your way. I have said enough. May the spirit of the Lord go with you," he added devoutly.

"Thank you," said the young soldier. "Do you know aught of one Silas Fox?" he questioned as he rose.

"Aye, and a cunning, self-seeking man he is, who professes overmuch of that sanctification I would fain were in his breast. He is one worth watching. He shows a double front, and continually sneers at Colonel Monmouth. It is also said that he is not so well considered over the border, whence he came."

"And are such men tolerated here?" cried the young man.

"Oh, you will find some strange characters here," re-