

come unto thee, to be thy little nurse ; which is my office of right, being a woman," added she smilingly, "and we are wont to insist on these points, thou knowest, and wilt not be offended ; besides," and Ellen's face grew anxious, "I feel more contented when I am with thee, my dear protector ; for, though the women have been most kind, yet they are very wild-looking, and scarcely seem to know anything of what I say. Let me stay with thee until thou art well again ; thou art my only friend."

"Need you ask it of me, Ellen ? It is pleasant to put oneself under such care. I am sure, with your aid, I shall soon be strong again, and then I promise to be your champion, in real earnest. As for our hosts, you need have no fear of them ; they are our staunch allies, the Mohawks, and we could not have fallen into better hands on this wild coast. Alas ! Ellen, what has become of the rest of the ship's people ; have none else been recovered ?"

"None ! none ! Speak not of it, Conrad ; it is too dreadful," she replied, with a shudder, burying her head in the folds of a blanket, as if to shut out the fearful vision the allusion recalled ; and, for some time, neither spoke.

Reposing side by side upon their couch of fir, the two friends passed the night, hand clasped in hand, with the innocence of those orphan children in the