

tertainment upon the first wild Beast which he brings home from hunting, which is a Proof of his coming to Man's Estate.

They are great Warriors, and their Neighbours stand much in Awe of them, being the only Nation that are not afraid to face the *Iroquois* \* in the Field of Battle. But before they go to War, they try their Courage in a pitched Battle with their Wives, in which Conflict if they chance to be worsted, they take Heart from their Defeat, and make no doubt of Success in their intended Expedition. On the other Side, if the Wife proves the weaker Vessel, an ill Omen is drawn from thence. This Conduct, I own, seems a little strange and absurd at first hearing ; yet, upon a nearer View, it will appear to be founded in very good Sense and Reason. In the first Case, the Husband is made desperate, not daring to return home without the Laurel, for Fear of a second Drubbing from his Wife. On the contrary, he that is Master at home, knows how to make himself well received there, whatever Disgrace he may have suffered in the Field.

Their Manner of declaring War has a natural Simplicity, which is very expressive. This

\* These are the *Indians* that inhabit the Country lying on the Back of *New-England*.