

everything which may create sport, raise a laugh, or drive away dull care.

As an instance of their fondness for a practical joke, and quickness in availing themselves of every possible opportunity of playing one off, let me mention the following incident. Some years since, ere that glorious invention of modern days, the steam-boat, had become so common upon our waters, and before the solitary "*scute-a-woolook*"—"fireboat," of which New-Brunswick could then boast, had ceased to alarm the astonished aborigines with its clouds of smoke, and steam, and incessant splashing, I had occasion to make a long journey, in a canoe, with Ettau, a middle-aged Indian, who, until then, had been a stranger to me. Six long and wearisome days had we paddled without intermission, and I began to perceive that Ettau was becoming tired, and discovering strong symptoms of needing rest and relaxation from his constant toil. He spoke English imperfectly, but the few days we had been together, had sufficed to establish a communication between us, in a mixed language, and he had just begun to feel himself sufficiently at ease to yield to the natural bent of his disposition.—Aided by a powerful current, we were passing swiftly along the margin of a meadow, well cultivated to the water's edge, when, suddenly, without any apparent reason, the canoe was pushed sharply on shore, and the Indian sprung out. Waving his hand to me, as a signal to remain quiet, he threw himself on all-fours, and, in that fashion, began making his way very quickly, and almost without a sound, through the long grass. He had not proceeded far, until he raised himself on his feet, made a long spring, and imitating the peculiar growl of the bear, when about to attack, he alighted very near a large hog, which, concealed by the luxuriant herbage, was effecting much mischief in the meadow. The affrighted porker uttered one of his most piercing cries, and instantly started, with wonderful speed, for the farm-house, which stood about a quarter of a mile from the river,

and, during the whole run, fancying a bear at his heels, continued to pour forth one uninterrupted shriek. On nearing the house, the pig, in his excessive fright, made a headlong dash at a rail fence, but, failing to get through, hung between the bars, and then his cries became absolutely terrific. The farmer, judging from the uproar that a bear was on his premises, sallied out, with gun in hand, to meet the enemy; the Indian, meantime, lay rolling in the grass, one shout of laughter pealing upon another, the cries of the half-maddened animal, as it struggled in the fence, nearly driving him into convulsions, until, being released, poor piggy bolted into his sty, vowing, no doubt, that he would never trespass on the meadow again, and then my red friend, completely breathless, came crawling down to the canoe, into which he slipped, and we resumed our journey. Every trace of fatigue appeared to have vanished, and Ettau paddled with renewed life and spirit; the complete success of his ruse, and the fright he had given the delinquent hog, delighted him beyond measure; the imitation of its cries in the fence, and the recollection of the whole scene, afforded constant amusement and food for laughter while we journeyed together.

But let us return from this digression to the evening in question. We were infected with the contagion of the prevailing mirth and gaiety, and joined in the fun and frolic of the party; the game was kept up with great life and spirit, until, in one of the breathing spells, an Indian produced some ancient stone spears and arrow heads, which he had found while preparing the ground for our wigwam. The spear-heads were of chert, the arrow-heads of chalcedony and translucent quartz, very neatly formed; they led to much inquiry and conversation, and we asked the reason of so many being found in that particular place.

Tomah, as the senior of the party, explained to us that these rude weapons were in general use, and the sole instruments of attack, or defence, known to his forefathers for many ages previ-