

lates on the subject of religion, we landed, and found a few wigwams inhabited by Matwa-aushe, and a part of his tribe.

Having erected our tents on an adjacent island, we afterwards had an opportunity of addressing the Indians as they



WILD INDIANS.

reclined on a rock.

Captain Anderson stated to them the object of our mission in their own dialect. The Chief replied that he had reflected on civilization and religion, but that he was not yet prepared to change his mode of life, especially as he had not consulted the whole of his tribe. I then explained to him some of the principal truths of Christianity, warned him of the danger of delay, and exhorted him and his people to be partakers of the blessings of religion. The next day we could not continue our course, the lake being agitated by a furious north wind. While we were at breakfast, the wife of Matwa-aushe, with another woman and a little boy paid us a visit. I believe their object was to obtain some food, as their supply of fish is but scanty. We reminded them of the advantages attending Christianity, and asked them why they did not endeavor to persuade their husbands to attend to the means of becoming religious. They expressed a wish that the men would accept the offer, and said that they should be happy to follow their example. In the morning of the same day two young Indians came to our encampment, who had been sent by the Methodists to confer with the natives in the vicinity of the

French River, and remained with us till the storm ceased. On the following day, the weather having moderated, we were enabled to pursue our mazy course among the rocks. The Indians being exceedingly mild and obliging, it is agreeable to travel with them, and it is amusing and pleasing to see their skill and dexterity in spearing fish and also in steering their frail canoe without suffering her to sustain the least injury from the pointed rocks. Having proceeded a considerable distance we had an opportunity of conversing with a small band of Indians, who said they were desirous to join the Christian Indians at Coldwater, but could not think of leaving the regions where their fathers lived and died. We also remained a few minutes with another tribe of Indians encamped near the mouth of French River, a part of whom are attached to the Methodists, who are endeavoring to induce them and their children to attend to their instructions.

On the 18th and 19th, the weather was unfavorable and the lake tempestuous. Our canoe was in danger of being carried away from the coast by the violence of the wind, but we succeeded in maintaining our sinuous way among the rocks, which, in some measure sheltered us from the fury of the tempest. We were now entertained