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"It must not be," said he; "the oath I have taken to my country's gods forbids my doing battle with you. But he that stands behind you weaponless, once foiled, shall find me prompt to a second encounter, if he can find a sword whose temper he can trust and dare use."

"Lend me your sword, Haverhill, and let me once more cope with that bloody boaster," said Danvers, boiling with rage; "and if he prove victor again, I charge you not to interpose, but let him take my life. It will justly belong to him."

They recommenced the combat, but they no longer stood on an equal footing. Danvers had not received a scratch,—the life-blood of his antagonist was oozing from twenty wounds. While every blow of the former told, those of the latter were aimless, and only cut and stabbed the air. But I must not protract the description because the combat was protracted. I saw this brave but savage man, half fiend and half hero, fall—saw the sword of his antagonist passed twice through his body, and heard his latest breath depart in a malediction on the Europeans.

While this combat had been going on, our troops had penetrated into the cavern to which the remnant of the negroes had retreated, and now returned to make report of the horrible sight which met their eyes at their entrance. Reasonably suspicious that the punishment of death awaited their capture, the rebels had, to a single man, committed suicide by cutting their throats. The floor of the cave was flooded with gore. Of sixty persons who were in the glen when we entered it, only one escaped.

This was Margaretta Shadwell—very much frightened, very hungry, quite unpresentable, but otherwise unharmed—thanks to the care of the puissant Barb, who, from mere whim, took it into his head to protect her.

Anxious that Danvers should relieve me honourably of my obligation to Miss Shadwell, I arranged it so that the care of her on the march should devolve entirely upon him. I rode behind, to permit the embryo passion to display itself in the thousand agreeable fooleries which belong to its early intercourse.

At Koplin's we were met by Mrs. Shadwell and her party. The meeting between the mother and daughter,