THE JOHNSONS

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When night came on, the fire was covered up, the boys pinioned and made to lay down together, the Indians then placed their hoppis straps over them, and laid down, one on each side of them, on the ends of the straps.

Pretty late in the night, the Indians fell asleep. and one of them becoming cold caught hold of John in his arms and turned him over on the out side. In this situation, the boy, who had kept awake, found means to get his hands loose, he then whispered to his brother, made him get up, and untied his arms. This done, Henry thought of nothing but running off, as fast as possible but when about to start, John caught hold of him, saying "We must kill these Indians before we go." After some hesitation, Henry agreed to make the attempt. John then took one of the rifles of the Indians, and placed it on a log with the muzzle close to the head of one of them. He then cocked the gun, and placed his little brother at the breach with his finger on the trigger, with instructions to pull it, as soon as he should strike the other Indian.

He then took one of the Indian's tomahawks and standing a straddle of the other Indian struck him with it. The blow, however, fell on the back of the neck and to one side, so as not to be fatal. The Indian then attempted to spring up; but the little fellow repeated his blows with such force and rapidity, on the scull, that as he expressed it "The Indian laid still and began to quiver."

At the moment of the first stoke, given by the elder brother, with the tomahawk the younger one pulled the trigger, and shot away a con-