

pains of hanging, had not Edwin stayed my hand."

"Better as it is, though the party with the chief are all disposed for war, the rest of the tribe, counselled by Great Eagle, are more pacific; his presence will, it is supposed, do more than turn the scale."

For some time, after Emily had retired to rest, the young men continued the conversation, and it was late before Horace lay down before the fire, and Dormer commenced his solitary night watch on the open space before the camp.

Morning broke, and with it the slumbers of the Indians; preparation for departure was soon completed, and the whole body swept down the broad river. Two hours after sunrise the canoes approached the shore, and in a few minutes afterwards, the foremost shot into the mouth of a deep creek; the rest followed in close succession, and after winding round several points, entered upon a small lake, from which a cloud of waterfowl, frightened by their approach, mounted into the air, and circling overhead, retreated to the river. This was the place of meeting, but hour after hour passed, and still no signs of the rest of the tribe. At length a solitary canoe glided into the lake; a young Indian of bold and noble bearing sprang upon the shore; advancing to where the chief stood in conversation with Dormer, he greeted them in turn, and then cast an enquiring look towards the others. When informed of the cause of their detention, his tall figure extended to its full height, and a smile of bitter scorn gathered on his lip.—Turning round to the captives, he repeated the old man's assurance of protection. "Knowing," he said, "the Sagamore's aversion to hostilities, yonder rebel seeks to alienate the affections of the tribe, by lying hints of their leader's inability to govern them; he basely insinuates that cowardice prevents his assent to the commencement of a war, which, he knows, could not advance the interests of the tribe; but let him beware, the greater part stand firm,

and are now in yonder wood watching the manner of my reception."

Great Eagle, for it was he who thus confidently asserted his power over those whom the old chief, his uncle, designed he should one day govern, now gave a preconcerted signal and his followers issued from the forest. With a proud feeling of satisfaction he saw the whole strength of the tribe once more met to deliberate upon a project, which, although he intended to oppose, yet he felt assured, might be attempted with no contemptible means to its accomplishment. The Indians themselves assumed an unwonted dignity, as the idea of strength and a capability of extended action forced itself upon their minds by the acquisition of numerical force.

Had an appeal been made at this moment by the advocates for war, it is probable a ferment might have been excited, which it would have been difficult to allay. By the time, however, the council was convened, pride had given way to sober reason.—All who from services done to the tribe, or from skill and daring in the chase, their exploits in war, or who, from their age and known wisdom, possessed weight in the deliberative assembly, having expressed their sentiments, the chief arose and negatived the proposition. With varied emotions, but with a simultaneous movement, each Indian seized his bow, and drawing an arrow to its head, discharged it upon the water, which, for several hundred yards, became covered with foam.

Maddened by the failure of his scheme Mambertou at once retired to the wood, while the elders of the tribe discussed the propriety of accusing him of treachery. As no certain unequivocal proofs of his offence could be adduced, it was thought proper to defer proceeding until a future time.

Meanwhile, the captives who had been anxious spectators of these proceedings, now that the event was favourable to their safety, after consulting as to the step next to be taken, concluded to remain under the protection of the