

ending, was the study of this amiable man—and at his dwelling, in the evenings, the inhabitants often assembled to offer up their prayers to the Supreme Being for his mercies for the past, and to ask favour for the future.

Kete-poo, a remnant of the Aborigines, frequently pitched his rude tent near the premises of Celestin; and when the chase or the fishing failed, he was sure to find wherewith for his wants from Celestin's liberal hand, as well as in severe storms to partake of his fireside. Kete-poo was considered by Celestin as an honest man, and though subject to some of the frailties of his race—an acute observer and the best trapper and marksman within many miles. In short, Kete-poo had stood unsurpassed for years, and prided himself not a little on his prowess—particularly in trapping bears. He would roam over a wide space of country and return at certain seasons to Fontaineville, frequently with much peltries, dried meat and dressed skins;—these he would from time to time dispose of at the settlements among the traders. But with all the benefit of his skill and luck in collecting furs, he was still no better off than when he first set out. The high prices paid by him for what he required—such as powder at sixteen shillings per pound, shot at five shillings, flints at one shillings and six pence each, fox-traps at sixty shillings, tobacco at twenty shillings, rum at ten shillings per quart, and other articles in like proportion, in lieu for beaver skins at twenty shillings per pound, weighed out by a certain pressire of the foot of the trader in one scale, kept Kete-poo always a debtor to Celestin's pork barrel and sack of meal.

Kete-poo was not unconscious of the erroneous weights of the traders, but having dipped too deep at first, it was no easy task to regain the water's edge, and submitted to the necessity of the case, hoping that each successive year would free him from the trader's books. Celestin ever had an aversion to trading, and preferred to gain his livelihood by tilling the soil, and to purchase only such extras as what few peltries he could catch near by would pay for at the time;—and he would now and then advise Kete-poo to give his attention to agriculture. But, a few days sufficed for Kete-poo to remain in what he considered a squaw's business, and he would quickly relapse into the habits of his forefathers. Yet, with all these, Celestin had implicit confidence in Kete-poo as a man of the best intentions, and would mildly chide those few who doubted his integrity. In return for Celestin's kindness in

lending him pork and meal, Kete-poo exhibited his gratitude—he would hunt a stray cow or pig for Celestin until finding it—would seek the best sugar places and direct him thereto, and at the return from the hunt would sell him venison at a less price than to the traders.

Thus years rolled on, each successive finding them on the same friendly terms that the former had. Celestin might loose his purse, but his integrity was ever to be found. Kete-poo might loose his peltries with the traders, but his faith was found to be firm and his reputation thought unsullied. Yet how soon may all traces of friendship vanish, and the best friends become the most deadly foes! And who can trace the movings of the savage mind! Kete-poo was a famed trapper, and any encroachment upon that fame, you may imagine, was bitterness to his soul.

About this time there occasionally visited Celestin's house, a man lately arrived from near the American lines—he was engaged in the lumbering business on the banks of the upper streams of the Shediac river. Celestin thought well of this man: his candour and knowledge of the world naturally led Celestin to desire his company as often as convenient. For some few weeks there had been great destruction among Celestin's flock. Now the Bear is singular in his habits, he will one year pounce upon a flock at a long distance from a settlement where he made his incursions the year prior, and seemingly to await its renewal before his return. Let us say a little of this more than frugi-carnivorous-mammiferous animal, with a large disproportioned head and elongated snout, ears small and pointed, slug-gish body and limbs, feet with five toes armed with hooked claws, extensible lips adapted to gathering berries, a peculiar convex facile outline difficult to describe—mostly all covered with a thick black woolly coat inclining to brown and gray, and as he advances in age, he advances in ferocity.

The flesh of sheep, and lambs and berries are his favourite food; but when slightly pressed by hunger, scarce any kind comes amiss;—pigs, calves, fish, green pease and corn, apples, mice, rabbits, moss, grass, leaves, and insects of all kinds. He will destroy large cattle by strangulation or pounding upon the fore shoulder, enter dairy houses and extract therefrom butter, cheese and milk; and from smoke-houses, meat and fish. The female makes a bold resistance when her young are attacked, and woe to the unwary who crosses her path. The 'hug' of the bear is described by those who