

vented one of our comrades from following us, and that it would be the crowning of his kindness if he would send two men to enable them to reach us. My entreaties were useless; Indians fear to go out by night, and nobody would undertake to go to the relief of Mr. Furst. They promised me, however, that they would go early next morning; this refusal gave me much pain; the old man perceived it, and, to console me said, that it would be quite useless to try, and find my friend in the dark, as he had no gun to show where he was, and that it was better to wait for daylight. Mr. Furst accordingly spent the night in the snow, where God alone could shield him from death, for, even in the cabin, we endured inexpressible cold. The Indians never make a fire when they lie down; they have not even blankets, and consequently we spent a very poor night. The next day, as we were preparing to go after Mr. Furst, we saw him arrive; our footprints had guided him, and to overtake us he had profited by the time when the snow, hardened by the night's cold, does not yield to the weight of a man walking. Our first care was to warm him, we then gave him some food, and we showed one another the joy we felt to be together again.

We spent the twenty-ninth and thirtieth of April with the Indians; they seemed to be jealous who would show us most attention, and endeavored to surpass each other in this respect. Bear meat and caribou did not fail us those two days, and they took care to give us the most delicate morsels. I know not whether the duties of hospitality are better fulfilled by Europeans than by these Indians. At least I am tempted to believe that these fulfil them with far better grace.