

escape, and threatened him with death the instant they should be fully convinced of the fraud. But the Indian made them perceive that the lichen on the rock had been trodden down by the weight of a human foot, that pebbles had been removed from the soil on which they lay, that an insect had been crushed, and that in one particular place an Indian's blanket had trailed in the dust so as to sweep it away; all this he saw as he walked along without even stopping for a moment.

At length arriving at a place where the earth was soft, he found from the tracks that the enemy was eight in number, and from the freshness of the footmarks he concluded that they must be encamped at no great distance. This proved to be true, for the following day the Indians were seen encamped, some lying down asleep, and others cooking by a little fire.

"See!" said the suspected man to his astonished companions, "there is the enemy! not of *my* nation, but dastardly Mingoos, as I told you; they are in our power, we need not fire a gun, in two hours more they will all lie down to sleep, and we will go up and tomahawk them." But the white men were overcome with fear, and did not choose to follow this advice, but urged him to lead them back by the nearest way. This he did with much reluctance, and he was not a little surprised on his return, to hear them assert that the number of the enemy so far exceeded that of their own party that they did not venture to discover themselves.

Parties of Europeans or Americans who sometimes travel into the least frequented parts of the vast continent of North America, would be in little safety without the assistance of Indian guides. All that can render travelling wearisome and perplexing has to be encountered; swamps, mud, bog, water that cannot be drunk, and sodden wood that cannot be burnt; but whilst toiling through dreary morasses or pathless forests in which civilized men can distinguish no signs of their having ever been crossed before, the guide steadily follows an Indian *trail* with as much apparent facility and confidence as an English gentleman would a turnpike road.