

the resolution of going to Montreal, for the purpose of fitting out an adventure suitable for the Indian Trade. Here is one of the many instances which marks the energy and firm determined spirit he possessed; to proceed from Fort William Augustus to Montreal in the depth of winter, he had to traverse a country containing no provisions but the wild beasts of the forest; and occupied by Indians, many of whom had been stirred up to acts of aggression towards the English during the late war; and none of them had as yet returned to pacific habits. But undeviatingly bent on his undertaking, and fearless of all the dangers with which it was surrounded, he engaged a man to act in the double capacity of an interpreter and a guide; and left the Fort on his perilous journey in the month of January. It was in the course of this journey he had the following narrow escape from being killed, as related in his own words:—

“At sunset, on the first day, we reached an Indian encampment, of six lodges and about twenty men. As these people had been very recently employed offensively, against the English, in the French service, I agreed but reluctantly to the proposal, of my guide and interpreter, which was nothing less, than that we should pass the night with them. My fears were somewhat lulled by his information, that he was personally acquainted with those who composed the camp, and by his assurances, that no danger was to be apprehended; and, being greatly fatigued, I entered one of the lodges, where I presently fell asleep.

“Unfortunately, Bodoine had brought, upon his back, a small keg of rum, which, while I slept, he opened, not only for himself, but for the general gratification of his friends; a circumstance, of which I was first made aware, in being awakened, by a kick on the breast, from the foot of one of my hosts, and by a yell, or Indian cry, which immediately succeeded. At the instant of opening my eyes, I saw that my assailant was struggling with one of his companions, who, in conjunction with several women, was endeavouring to restrain his ferocity. Perceiving, however, in the countenance of my enemy, the most determined mischief, I sprung upon my feet, receiving, in so doing, a wound in my hand, from a knife, which had been raised to give a more serious wound. While the rest of my guardians continued their charitable efforts for my protection, an old woman took hold of my arm, and, making signs that I should accompany her, led me out of the lodge, and then gave me to understand, that unless I fled, or could conceal myself, I should certainly be killed.”

He next proceeds to inform his readers, of his escape by concealing himself behind a tree; and after being rejoined by his guide, they pursue their route together. During their progress Mr. H. and his guide were exposed to many hardships and had many narrow escapes, from the united violence of the inimical Indians, and famine. At last arriving at the residence of M. Le Duc, seignior of the Cedars, he obtained a great deal of valuable information from this gentleman, relative to the Indian Trade; he having spent the early part of his life in that line, while the country was in the possession of the