

and made her turn her face away, while she said, half reprovingly,

"There now, sir knight, thou art forgiven; but take heed and be not too bold for the future. There now, go, we entreat thee, and leave thy lady to her own reflections for a little while."

Thus enjoined, Conrad was obliged to obey; though he left the maiden's side with reluctance, and joined the leader of the party—the Indian previously alluded to, who usually stepped in front of his men as they marched along in a silent line, charged with their packs and arms, though without much circumspection; for they were traversing a wild tract where there was very little chance of their meeting an enemy. Conrad marked the proud, intelligent countenances of these men, and the care with which they were equipped, each being dressed and armed in precisely the same manner, and carrying in addition to his smaller weapons, a long gun of English make, which was handled with dexterity and thrown, while on the march, into the hollow of the arm. On every occasion that required an exercise of craft, they acted with the precision and readiness of men thoroughly schooled in the methods of Indian warfare, and possessed of entire confidence in themselves. Throughout the whole band there reigned the most complete unanimity and singleness of purpose; rigid disci-