

suspended a long bladed knife, with a handle of Indian workmanship—a pair of leggins tightly fitted to a well turned calf, were handsomely braided and beaded, while a drooping blue cap, from which an eagle feather waved, surmounted a head and face of classic beauty. Education and opportunities of improvement, derived from his rank as captain in a troop of horse, had given to Edwin Dormer an advantage over his friend, who looked to him for counsel in all matters of graver import.

“Yes,” said Dormer, bending his eyes beaming with tender affection upon the face of Emily, which had become flushed by a description of her recent retrospection, “you say truly; it is a lovely spot, and may well rival the proud Hudson in his palmiest days. I, too, have been led back in thought to its gentle waters—to the young friends we have left upon its banks, or who have been snatched from the blood stained earth before the frown of care had gathered on their brows.—Retrospection has been busy with a checquered life, but the future may be that of even happiness, the present seems ominous of as much.” “Since you admire the place so well, perhaps it would be useless to go farther,” said Horace, “for my part, it would just suit my taste—it looks like a good place for game, besides I think the land is choice; I vote for a grant hereabouts.”

Having finished their evening repast, while discussing this proposition in reference to the object of their present incursion, the party prepared to go in search of more convenient ground for an encampment than that afforded by Spoon Island.

As Dormer was in the act of pushing off the canoe, a confused noise reached his ear; and in a few minutes a large number of barks shot round a point about a quarter of a mile above. On they came with the speed of arrows, setting the whole surface of the river as they moved through it, in violent agitation. It soon became evident that some unusual excitement prevailed among the Indians, from the savage and fran-

tic violence with which they impelled their barks. An hundred paddles were twirled in the air, while a simultaneous shout of mingled joy and fury, struck terror upon the little party of whites, the moment they were perceived. To fly was the first impulse of the astonished voyagers, but an instant's reflection told the utter impossibility of success.

Davenport threw his unerring rifle to his shoulder, and would have dealt destruction to the foremost, had not his wiser companion thrown up the muzzle ere he could accomplish his purpose.

“Rash boy!” said he, “would you bring down upon us the certain vengeance of the Indians. See you not yon grey headed Sagamore exerting himself to allay the passion of his followers. Well I know the old man, and believe me,” he added, turning to Emily, “he will not suffer aught of harm to happen us.”

By this time the Indians had sprung upon the beach, and after the old man had given Edwin a kindly greeting, a council was holden. Frequent intercourse with the Indians, for the purpose of barter, had given Dormer a knowledge of the Milicete language, which enabled him to communicate to his companion the substance of the discussion. From it they learned that the Indians, jealous of the hostile appearance of a small detachment of soldiers, who had landed on the left bank of the river, and were busily engaged in erecting a fort at the mouth, had come to the determination of exterminating the invaders, and that they had commenced operations by slaughtering the cattle, and destroying the crops they had met with in their passage down. The chief closed the debate by exhorting to pacific measures.

“Children,” he said, and all listened with that habitual respect which is seldom withheld by the subordinate, even when his sentiments are at variance, as in the present instance, with those of his chief:—“the white man comes upon our shores strong and armed; his big war-boat sits upon the waters, and our