

mother, my dear mother!' cried he, 'I shall not see you then—I shall be torn from you again—perhaps we shall never meet.' This thought affected him so much, that the surgeon could with difficulty pacify him, though he gave him assurances that he would contrive some method to get him out of the Lieutenant's power.

Finding him a little composed, he left him, in order, he said, to execute a plan he had formed, which he did not doubt would succeed. He staid long; and this interval was passed in cruel agitation by the two prisoners. At length the surgeon returned; and, now with such marks of satisfaction in his looks, as revived all their hopes.

'Make yourself easy, my sweet young friend,' said he to Edward; 'you shall be at liberty this night. Here how I have settled the matter :

There is now in the Fort two of the Mohawk Indians, who have been here some time, trading for furs. They have finished their business, and propose to return to their village to-morrow. They are both sensible honest fellows, of some consequence in their tribe; they know your father, and are highly provoked at the cruelty and injustice of the Lieutenant: I have engaged them to take you and William under their conduct. See here,' pursued he, shewing them a bundle which he had brought in under his cloak; here is a complete Indian dress for each of you. We have nothing to do but to pare off some of the length of this mantle, and you will be well fitted,' said he to Edward. 'The Indians have agreed to set out to night, which is dark enough to favour your escape. The sentinel at the gate, supposing you to be all Mohawk Indians, who go in and out of the garrison freely, will ask no questions—But, come (added he) we have no time to lose; put on your disguises, the Indians will be here immediately.'

William soon appeared a perfect Indian, his hair being already cut in their frightful fashion. But Edward, unwilling to part with his fine curling locks, was in some perplexity.

'You have nothing to do,' said Mr. Parker, 'but to wrap part of your mantle about your head; the Mohawk Indians often wear theirs in this manner.'

While Edward was dressing, he expressed his concern for the difficulties this friendly action would draw upon Mr. Parker.

'You may be quite easy upon that score,' said the worthy young man; 'I have provided against the effects of the Lieutenant's rage: all I have to expect is to be

put under an arrest, but my confinement will not last long. One of the Indians, for a reward, has undertaken to proceed to New-York with a letter from me to the Governor, in which I shall give him an account of Mr. Blood's tyranny and injustice. As soon as you are out of danger of a pursuit, which however I think he will hardly attempt, I will tell him that circumstance, which I know will operate so strongly upon his fears, that he will not dare to treat me with any severity.'

Mr. Parker sat down to write his letter, which was but just sealed when the Indians arrived. He furnished the travellers with what refreshments he could procure; and, after tenderly embracing Edward, recommended him to Providence, and dismissed them, following them at some distance till he saw them safely out of the gate. They soon reached their canoes, in which they embarked immediately.

I will not trouble you now, madam, with an account of all the difficulties and distresses they met with in this expedition; concerning which William was very circumstantial, as well as in that from Canada. You will hear the whole some other time; when you are all happily met, these adventures will furnish matter for many interesting conversations.

The Indian who was to proceed to New York, having been lately at Albany, was able to give Edward some intelligence of his mother, which threw him into transports of joy. He told William, who understood the Mohawk language, that he saw her at Mrs. Mountfort's villa, whether he went with a Dutchman, who had some business with that lady. Edward, therefore all eager impatience to see her, would not stop at the Mohawk village to refresh himself, after the incredible fatigue he had endured, where Mr. Butler, who commanded the Fort there, would have given him a cordial reception, but insisted on proceeding.

The Indians faithfully performed their engagement, for which they were well paid. They landed their fellow travellers at a creek, within three miles of the place where Mrs. Mountfort resided. Here he who was courier to New York, took leave of them, and pursued his route to Albany; from whence, if he did not find a sloop ready to sail for New York, he was to continue his journey by land. And the other having conducted them within sight of the house, went back to his canoe, and returned to his own village.

You know the rest, madam. Your amiable friend, after so many severe trials of her patience and fortitude, is now happy—
happy