

parations on the eve of the all eventful day and repeatedly assured his tribesmen that he would fight manfully for their rights. The commissioners, however, knowing by hearsay his inexhaustible power of speech and gesture, thought it best not to give him an opportunity of setting forth on one of his interminable harangues. And so well did they succeed in this that, before he had time to rightly strip himself of the ways of the private individual and don those of the chief, his interviewers had come and gone. They had left an agent to install the chief and his tribesmen on the reserve. This, at one time, was the property of a wealthy land owner, and on it was a large dwelling house, besides a number of other buildings, graineries, etc. William, of course, claimed all these as his own, and ordered his subjects to erect homes for themselves as best they could. The land was tilled and yielded a large crop of grain and vegetables. Each able-bodied Indian cultivated his little field and rightly claimed the products thereof. When autumn came the tillers of the soil had no store-houses in which to place their produce. They were at a loss what to do. Their chief, who was always willing to do all in his power for the welfare of his flock, at once solved the difficulty by offering to store all the products in his own buildings.

I should have informed the reader ere this, that William had a son-in-law remarkable for his unprincipled shrewdness. Baptiste, for that was his name, did not belong to the tribe of his father-in-law at all, but had come from no one knew exactly where. About his neck there was an unsightly scar and it was rumored that, in his early years, he had been hanged by his erstwhile fellow-tribesmen, but had, by some mysterious trickery, escaped death. Baptiste, despite his lack of beauty and the malicious insinuations made against his character, won the heart and hand of William's dusky daughter and became a recognized member of the royal household. Total exemption from all manual labor seemed to be the distinctive mark which characterized all the members of the chief's family, including himself. No wonder then, that William and those dear ones around him, were often brought face to face with that question of questions:

How can one destitute of fortune, evade the sentence which reads :--"Thou shalt earn thy bread by the sweat of thy brow." Baptiste had reached the age of forty without having ever dampened a single hair of his head with the sweat of toil and he had long since taken the firm determination to treat work, of whatever form, with cold, unrelenting contempt. Consequently when he beheld William's grainaries and store-houses full to overflowing he thought the time opportune to lay up a store of eatables and wearables. He at once proceeded to open up trade with the White shop keepers. It was in vain that the other Indians clamored for what belonged to them. William, acting under Baptiste's advice, endeavored to explain that all was being done for the tribe's best interests. It was his intention, he said, to establish a sure market for his subjects' produce. This explanation, however, did not prove satisfactory, and the serpent of discord, which had long been working secret mischief, now boldly showed its venomous fangs. The malcontents rose up in rebellion and appointed as chief one Tomahusket, who for years had been William's foremost councillor and friend. The leaders of the rebellion, declared William too old to fulfil his duties properly. They further stated that he was the dupe of his renegade son-in-law, that, through his neglect, the small-pox had carried off the majority of the tribe, and finally that, in consequence of his cowardice, he had allowed Whitemen to take possession of his lands.

Had not the old chief been an expert helmsman, such a storm would surely have wrecked the ship of state. But William was a born ruler and whilst fanatical agitators had, by their stormy out-bursts of denunciation, plunged the tribe into a state of intense excitement he kept the even tenor of his way, ate, drank, slept and smoked, as though wholly unaware of the dangers by which he was surrounded. Just when an immediate crisis seemed inevitable, a messenger arrived and informed William that a number of strange Indians had pitched their tents on the banks of a stream flowing within his boundaries and were hunting deer in that locality. The sagacious chief took in the whole situation at a