

CHAPTER V.

PURSUIT OF A FUGITIVE.

Strength of the Natives' Fingers—Speed in Running—Skill in Paddling—
Escape of a Fugitive.

*You have not seen such a thing as it is ;
I can hardly forbear hurling things at him.*

TWELFTH NIGHT.

THE Upper Canadians and the men of the Northern and Western States of the United States are the finest-looking men I have anywhere seen, with the exception, perhaps, of the Queen Charlotte Islanders, on the North-west of British Columbia. I thought so on seeing them in their homes in Canada and America, and my estimate was confirmed by the appearance of the British Columbian population and the inhabitants of my own settlement, who chiefly were of these nationalities. Finer men cannot be seen, in face and figure, than among the miners and woodmen, say, at a race-meeting in Beacon Hill Park, near Victoria, Vancouver Island, any summer afternoon. I had on an average about 270 men at Alberni—perhaps three-fourths of these Canadians and Americans—stalwart, handsome fellows, accustomed to work with their hands. One day,