

his guns. Enraged by this obstinate resistance, and ashamed of being vanquished by such a handful of men, the Halitanes dismounted from their horses, cut down some bushes, which they held before them as a protection, and advanced. The Chaguyenne chief instantly adapted his plan of defence to the new mode of attack. He made his people resume their arms, but ordered them not to fire till the enemy drew very near; and then only half to fire at once, in order to give time to those that had fired to reload their pieces. This manœuvre was so promptly executed, and succeeded so well, that the assailants, most of whom were wounded, made a precipitate retreat. The great chief of the Halitanes, inflamed with revenge, and stung with shame, resolved to kill the Chaguyenne chief with his own hand, or to perish in the attempt. With his buckler and his lance he rushed impetuous towards the foe, who awaited his approach with a serene look; and when he got so near that he could not miss his aim, the Chaguyenne warrior discharged his piece, and struck his enemy in the heart. He instantly fell dead; and his comrades retreated in dismay, without attempting to offer further molestation to the return of the Chaguyennes.

CHAP. XIV.

TREATIES OF PEACE.—MANNER OF CARRYING THE CALUMET*.—RECEPTION OF THE WARRIORS SENT WITH THE CALUMET.—CALUMET-DANCE.—SUN-DANCE.—OX-DANCE.—DRESS—HABITATIONS—COMPLEXION AND TEMPER OF THE SAVAGES OF UPPER MISSOURI.—THEIR ARMS.

TWO savage nations seldom resolve to make peace until they have done the greatest possible injuries to each other. That nation which is in want of the privilege either of hunting on the other's lands, or of exchanging various articles with them, commonly makes the first proposals.

In each savage village there are some, who, through caprice or marriage, have left their own nations to come and dwell among strangers, by whom they are considered, especially in war time, as natives. These are employed to carry the first proposals of peace.

After mature deliberation on the advantages and necessity of

* Calumet signifies a pipe.