

misgiving, he heartily wished that he had accepted the services of the Indian who was to have been his companion and conductor. As he descended into a dark gully under the trees, where the path, which the horse seemed instinctively to follow, lost itself in the increasing gloom, he carefully examined the priming of his pistols, and began seriously to meditate on the possibilities of his having to spend a night in the forest without any provision for himself or his horse, which, high-strung and restive, now began to show signs of the effect of the long and wearisome journey. His mind now reverted to unpleasant recollections of tales which he had heard at York, of the prevalence of wolves and other wild beasts, which at this time of the year were unusually ferocious. He also remembered, in the isolation of this solitude, that though the savages of the Province were disposed to be loyal, being of the Mohawk nation, and those of the neighboring country to the south broken in spirit since the defeat of the schemes of the great warrior and chief, Pontiac, yet the growing disquiet caused by the recent rumors of war between the young Republic and Britain was rapidly developing into what was soon to become a sort of guerilla warfare on the borders of the lakes. He realized that this part of the Province which he approached, was so close to the enemy's frontier as to be most probably the theatre of secret and open invasion and depredation on the part of both the Americans and those of the redmen who were their allies.

This conviction was not made more comforting to the young soldier by the knowledge he possessed that a