STORIES FROM INDIAN WIGWAMS

NORTHERN CAMP-FIRES.

CHAPTER I.

THE INDIANS—CONTRADICTORY NOTIONS FORMED OF THEM— PHYSICAL APPEARANCE—POWER TO ENDURE—HIGH IDEAS OF HONOR—SOCIAL LIFE—SELF CONTROL UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES—ATAHULPA—MAXIMS—DECORUM IN THEIR COUNCILS—METHODS OF WAR—ONLY VOLUN-TEERS—HOW A CAPTAIN ENLISTED FOLLOWERS FOR A BATTLE—NO PUBLIC COMMISSARIAT—EVERY MAN FOR HIM-SELF—OPEN WARFARE AND PITCHED BATTLES ALMOST UNKNOWN—THE SECRET ATTACK AND AMBUSH PREFERRED —EAGLE FEATHERS THE BADGE OF SUCCESS—SCALPING CONFINED TO INDIANS—ROMANTIC STORY OF ITS ORIGIN.

A ROUND none of the subdivisions of the great human family does there cluster more of the romantic and picturesque than that which is associated with the North American Indian. Startling indeed to the Old World's inhabitants must have been the news brought back by the adventurous voyagers, toward the end of the fifteenth century, that across the great and wide sea there were found new continents inhabited by strange people with many striking characteristics and with customs altogether different from those possessed by any other of earth's heterogeneous races.

Amidst the thirst for gold and greed for land there were those who endeavored to study as well as benefit this newly discovered branch of the great Adamic family which had so