

should show it openly. This was just sufficient to give character to, and to render interesting a personality which was otherwise frank and light-hearted.

Now, however, he was weary and anxious, as he was fearful that he had lost his way, and, for several reasons was desirous of reaching his journey's end as soon as possible.

Beautiful was the wild aspect of nature about him, appealing impressively to his slightly pensive spirit, as it continuously revealed itself in glimpses of far-stretching lake and marshy shore, this giving place in turn to shaded avenues and groined arches of vast primeval forest, under which his horse wended its way over needles of the pine, as though in the nave of a great cathedral. By this time, however, the traveller had become so worried that he barely more than noted that the country grew ever more bleak and lonely, and the road more difficult to follow as he proceeded.

He had ridden since early morning from the village of Newark, lately the military capital of the Province, and even at the time of the opening of this story, more than a hamlet; and though he was bound on a mission of a confidential nature, had foolishly, following the whim of over-confident youth and the daring of the old-world officer, refused the offer of a guide made by the official at that place.

"I came from York alone," he had returned in answer to the offer, "and it shall not be said that one who campaigned in Spain cannot follow the windings of a Colonial backwoods road."

But now, as he moved slowly along with growing