

THE  
PRAIRIE-BIRD.

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CHAPTER I.

REGINALD AND HIS PARTY AT THE INDIAN ENCAMPMENT.

WHILE Reginald and his two companions were feasting with Tamenund, a similar repast was laid before the rest of the party, in the lodge of a brave named Maque-o-nah, or the "Bear-asleep," at which Mike Smith occupied the centre, or principal seat, and next to him sat Monsieur Perrot—the latter personage being very curious to see the culinary arrangements made for this, his first Indian banquet. He was horrified at observing the carelessness with which they thrust half the side of a buffalo to the edge of a huge fire of undried wood, leaving a portion of the meat to be singed and burnt, while other parts were scarcely exposed to the heat; he could not refrain from expressing to one of the Canadian coureurs des Bois,