

refined taste, who enters upon this wild life, with all its attendant pleasures, and moments of intense interest, after long communion with the world, and weariness of its ways, enjoys the delights which it affords with keener zest and higher gratification than the being who is accustomed only to forest scenes and life "under the green-wood tree." The sportsman and the gentleman takes his simple meal in peace and quietness by the river side, under a bright and cloudless canopy, and he enjoys it the more, because it is seasoned by a good appetite, and sweetened by previous exercise of the most invigorating character; he feels that all his powers, both of mind and body, are in the highest state of perfection, and that he possesses unusual quickness of perception, combined with great energy both of thought and action. He contrasts his feelings with those which he has experienced while undergoing the fatigue of a sumptuous dinner of many courses, for which he had no appetite, but with which he was compelled to trifle while seated under the gilded cornice, and surrounded by the elaborate and costly ornaments of some magnificent saloon, oppressed by the glare of light, the sense of suffocation from a close and heated atmosphere, and all the *desagremens* of a large and crowded party, however select it may be; and he draws conclusions which are greatly in favour of his homely, yet abundant and really luxurious repast. He quaffs from the cool and limpid spring which bubbles by his side, and feels that the pleasures he is enjoying are such as leave no sting behind, but will furnish pleasing recollections for many long years, of a more troubled existence, which he may be destined to spend in the gay world, to whose accustomed round of frivolity and folly he is fettered by the imperceptible, yet binding chains of long continued habit.

It has been my good fortune, at times, to meet with capital sportsmen, and right pleasant companions, from the mother-country, who had acquired the requisite degree of skill and dexterity for following our wild sports, and ready and wil-

ling, at any season, for a dash into the forest; and it was with a party of such choice spirits that I found myself, one calm summer morning, floating over the deep and placid waters of one of our third-rate rivers. We were five in all, in the same number of canoes, each paddled by an active Indian; and as we proceeded up stream, in line abreast, we appeared to move by one impulse, for no canoe shot a-head of its fellows, and we rounded points, and skimmed across coves and bays with equal speed, and swift and steady motion. Salmon-spears, guns, fishing-rods, landing-nets, gaffs, and other sporting implements, might be seen projecting from the canoes; while the requisites for a stay in the forest, of some duration, were snugly stowed and carefully secured in each. We had met, by appointment, at the last settlement on the river, about 80 miles from the sea, and departing thence, at daybreak, with joyous spirits and merry shouts, the clear, silvery notes from the bugle of one of the party, broke the stillness of the opening day, and aroused the sleeping echoes with the stirring strain of

"Behold, how brightly breaks the morning."

The startled heron rose sluggishly from the shallow whereon he had taken post to seize his finny prey for a morning meal, and sailed heavily away from our dangerous proximity; while the scared wild ducks sprang sharply from the sedges which concealed them, and, wheeling round, rose high above the tree-tops, to speed their flight to some more quiet feeding-place, as yet undisturbed by the report of a gun, or the echoing blast of the bugle. Thus we advanced some eight or ten miles into the depths of the wilderness, when the stream becoming narrower, and the current more swift, we necessarily broke up our line of march, and each canoe made its way independently of the others. In this way we pushed on some four or five miles further; and, while pursuing our course, the fly-rods were in constant requisition, the flies being used right and left from the canoes, and many good trout were thus taken, with scarcely a