

and the life therein circumscribed, and that better fortunes might await him, if he could but make his way into some of the neighboring and wealthier colonies, where men were already beginning to build up fortunes.

But upon this the worthy Mrs. Manners did but shake her head, having been of those who had come through many tribulations. She had been with the aged Mrs. Hooker borne upon a litter through the wilderness, and she grew eloquent at times as to the hideous and trackless paths through which that expedition from Massachusetts to Connecticut had traversed swamps and rivers, and mountains and thickets, only made passable by surmounting the greatest of difficulties. Above them was, as she poetically declared, "the arch of heaven;" they slept always in the open, and were nourished chiefly by the milk from the numerous herds of cattle driven before them. They had with them, moreover, the ever-present dread of Indian aggressions, as well as of the wild beasts of the forest.

This tale had a strange fascination for Edward, though he chafed in secret that this tall