

resumed my journey through the woods in a north-north-east direction."

At the end of fourteen days thus pleasantly spent, the author fell in with some Indians, who treated him kindly, and conducted him to his white friends.

The next winter was passed among the Indians called 'flat heads.

"A large band (we were told) of the Flat-head warriors were encamped about the fort. They had recently returned from the buffalo country, and had revenged their defeat of the preceding year, by a signal victory over their enemies the Black-feet: several of whose warriors, with their women, they had taken prisoners. McMillan's tobacco and stock of trading goods had been entirely expended previous to my arrival, and the Indians were much in want of ammunition, &c. My appearance, or I should rather say, the goods I brought with me, was therefore a source of great joy to both parties. The natives smoked the much-loved weed for several days successively. Our hunters killed a few mountain sheep, and I brought up a bag of flour, a bag of rice, plenty of tea and coffee, some arrow root, and fifteen gallons of prime rum. We spent a comparatively happy Christmas, and by the side of a blazing fire in a warm room, forgot the sufferings we endured in our dreary progress through the woods. There was however, in the midst of our festivities, a great drawback from the pleasure we should have otherwise enjoyed. I allude to the unfortunate Black-feet who had been captured by the Flat-heads. Having been informed that they were about putting one of their prisoners to death, I went to their camp to witness the spectacle. We remonstrated against the exercise of such horrible cruelties. They replied by saying the Black feet treated their relations in the same manner; that it was the course adopted by all red warriors: and that they could not think of giving up the gratification of their revenge to the foolish and womanish feelings of white men.

"While pride, policy, ambition, self-preservation, or the love of aggrandizement, often deluges the civilized world with Christian blood; the only cause assigned by the natives of whom I write, for their perpetual warfare, is their love of buffalo. There are extensive plains to the eastward of the mountain, frequented in the summer and autumnal months by numerous herds of buffaloes. Hither the rival tribes repair to hunt those animals, that they may procure as much of their meat as will supply them until the succeeding season. In these excursions they often meet, and the most sanguinary conflicts follow. The Black-feet lay claim to all that part of the country immediately at the foot of the mountains, which is most frequented by the buffalo: and allege that the Flat-heads, by resorting thither to hunt, are intruders whom they are bound to oppose on all occasions. The latter, on the contrary, assert that their forefathers had always claimed and exercised the right of hunting on these 'debateable lands;' and that