

prefs their gratitude. His kindness was beyond their expectation.—Before his departure, however, they gave him what things they had left behind, together with some other things of considerable value. And they had reason afterwards to wish that they had presented him with more; for their loads proved so much too heavy for them, that they were obliged to leave by the way a large bag full of valuable articles.

They now met with almost insurmountable difficulties; for in pursuing the river, their progress was obstructed by craggy windfalls, rocky ledges, lofty mountains, and hideous precipices.

On the twelfth day of April, their provisions were exhausted; and Mrs. Forbes thought it most advisable to have a camp erected, and for herself and the children to remain there, while her husband and oldest son should go forward to see whether they could find the inhabitants—apprehending that they were much nearer than they afterwards proved to be.

A camp was therefore erected, and leaving Mrs. Forbes with her four young children, Mr. Forbes and his son went forward with as much speed as possible. The first and second days, finding the ice would bear them, they travelled on the river; and would have made considerable progress, but unfortunately they mistook their way at a very material carrying place, where, instead of leaving the river, and crossing by land to the next bend, which was only twelve miles, they followed the river sixty miles around.

A little before night, the second day, they came to falls, and could go no further on the ice. They went on shore, and soon after came to a precipice where they were obliged to descend twenty feet almost perpendicularly, and at the risk of being dashed upon the rocks.—Night coming on, they encamped; and the next day, finding a shoal rocky place