

more boggy places to lay down some sticks and branches of trees, by means of which a dexterous jumper leaping from one to the other might avoid sinking much more than ankle deep. The slippery sticks, however, made a fall so often inevitable, that, to avoid risk to the barometer, I was content to wade how I best could. We passed one or two little ponds of a few hundred yards in diameter, embosomed in wood. At the last of these the scenery was very characteristic of a wild country. The tranquil pond seen at a little distance through the trees, with the thick rank forest circling it on every side so as to exclude every breath of air, old trees covered with tangled bunches of moss and white lichens, fallen through sheer decay and leaning against their neighbours in all positions over the water of the pond, presented a scene which had evidently been unaltered for centuries, and which no act or care of man had ever modified in the least; while from the full margin of the pond a small brook, some five yards wide, leaped with sudden impetuosity, and foaming over a rocky bed at our feet, hurried into the woods, frequently concealed by masses of fallen timber from bank to