

CHAPTER II.

RIGHT OF SAVAGES TO THE SOIL.

The right of civilized Men to occupy savage Countries—Duty of Intruders
—Plots of the Ahts to attack us—Arrival of H.M. gunboat *Grappler*
—The Indian's notion of an English Bishop, and of the Crews of
English Ships of War.

*I say, by sorcery he got this isle,
From me he got it.—TEMPEST.*

I SPENT some months very pleasantly directing the first work at the settlement. The vessels discharged their cargoes, and the carpenters worked on shore preparing timber for the houses and buildings. The first house that was built was made of logs, with split wood for the roof—rather a plain-looking hut, but nevertheless a comfortable house in all weathers. It was the kind of house that woodmen build with the axe alone. By-and-by, we had more ambitious houses of sawn wood. The place the Indians had moved to was about a mile distant, and our conversation naturally was very much about them. In the evenings we sat round the fire discussing their dispositions and probable intentions, and the Indians did the same about us in their new