

individual, who could detach himself from all the attractions of civilized life, and set himself down alone, with the exception of a few hired men, in the midst of a trackless forest, inhabited only by a few scattering Indians, and wild beasts. The resolution which Colonel Talbot had formed, and was now about to act upon, is the more extraordinary in an individual, elevated at so early an age, to a rank so high in the army; endowed as he was, with every qualification, apparently necessary to raise him to the very summit of military glory; surrounded by the pomp and splendor of military parade, so attractive to the votaries of fashionable life; moving amidst the fascinations of polished society, and the smiles and blandishments of youth and beauty—that a man so situated should abandon the luxuries and enchantment of such a coterie, and become the immediate neighbor of raccoons and howling wolves, to lead a dull monotonous life in the untamed forests of Canada, with the certain prospect of hard labor and continual privation, is proof that he was a man of great fortitude, and of no ordinary mind.

At the time Colonel Talbot exchanged the sword for the axe, he was young, active, and sufficiently accomplished, to adorn the society in which men of his rank usually mix. His rank in the army was unusually high for a man of his years, being a Lieut. Colonel at the age of twenty-two.