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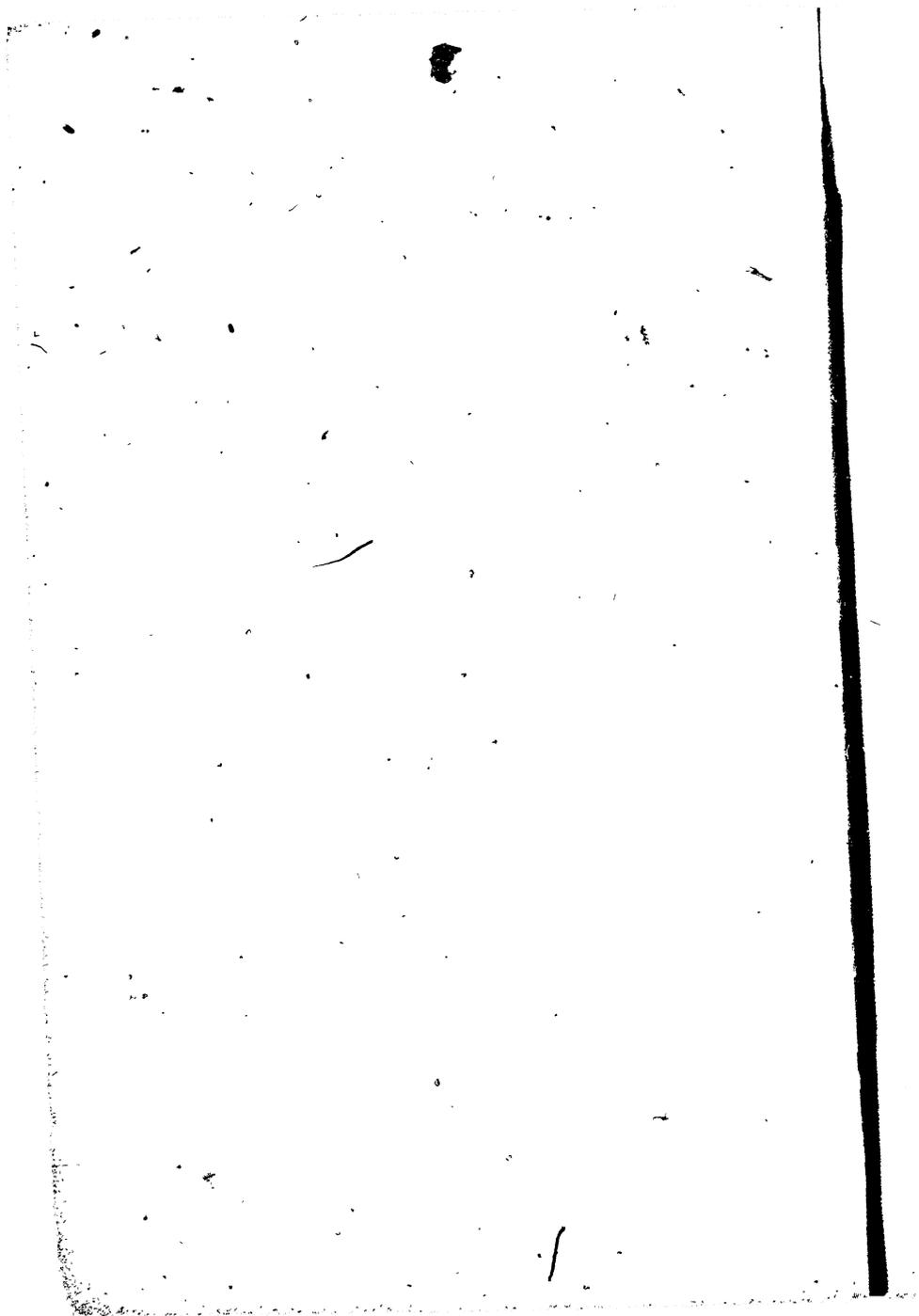
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TECUMSEH

A DRAMA

BY

CHARLES MAIR.

TORONTO:
HUNTER, ROSE & COMPANY.
LONDON:
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1886.

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of Canada, in the year one thousand eight
hundred and eighty-six, by CHARLES MAIR,
in the Office of the Minister of Agriculture.

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"When the white men first set foot on our shores, they were hungry ; they had no places on which to spread their blankets or to kindle their fires. They were feeble ; they could do nothing for themselves. Our fathers commiserated their distress, and shared freely with them whatever the Great Spirit had given to his red children."

From TECUMSEH'S speech to the Osages.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

INDIANS :

TECUMSEH (*Chief of the Shawanoes*).
THE PROPHET (*Brother of Tecumseh*).
TARHAY (*A Chief in love with Iena*).
STAYETA (*Chief of the Wyandots*).
MIAMI, DELAWARE, KICKAPOO and DAHCOTA CHIEFS.
Warriors, Braves, Josakeeds and Runners.
MAMATEE (*Wife of Tecumseh*).
IENA (*Niece of Tecumseh*).
WEETAMORE, WINONA and other *Indian Maidens*.

AMERICANS :

GENERAL HARRISON (*Governor of Indiana Territory*).
GENERAL HULL.
COLONEL CASS.
BARRON (*An Indian Agent*).
TWANG, SLAUGH, GERKIN and BLOAT (*Citizens of Vincennes*).
Five Councillors of Indiana Territory, Officers, Soldiers, Volunteers,
Orderlies and Scouts.

BRITISH AND CANADIANS :

GENERAL BROCK (*Administrator of the Government of Upper
Canada*).
COLONEL (*afterwards General*) PROCTOR.
GLEGG, } *Aides-de-camp to General Brock.*
MACDONELL, }
NICHOL, } *Colonels of Canadian Volunteers.*
BABY, }
ELIOTT, }
MCKEE, } *Captains of Canadian Volunteers.*
ROBINSON, }
LEFROY (*A poet-artist, enamoured of Indian life, and in love with
IENA.*)
*Two Old men of York, U. E. Loyalists, and other Citizens, Alien
Settlers, Officers, Soldiers, Volunteers, Orderlies and Messengers.*

TECUMSEH.

ACT I.

SCENE FIRST.—THE FOREST NEAR THE PROPHET'S
TOWN ON THE TIPPECANOE.

Enter the PROPHET.

PROPHET. Twelve moons have wasted, and no tidings
still !

Tecumseh must have perished ! Joy has tears
As well as grief, and mine will freely flow—
Sernbling our women's piteous privilege—
Whilst dry ambition ambles to its ends.
My schemes have swelled to greatness, and my name
Has flown so far upon the wings of fear
That nations tremble at its utterance.
Our braves abhor, yet stand in awe of me,
Who ferret witchcraft out, commune with Heaven,
And ope or shut the gloomy doors of death.
All feelings and all seasons suit ambition !

Yet my vindictive nature hath a craft,
In action slow, which matches mother-earth's :
First seed-time—then the harvest of revenge.
Who works for power, and not the good of men,
Would rather win by fear than lose by love.
Not so Tecumseh—rushing to his ends,
And followed by men's love—whose very foes
Trust him the most. Rash fool! Him do I dread,
And his imperious spirit. Twelve infant moons
Have swung in silver cradles o'er these woods,
And still no tidings of his enterprise,
Which—all too deep and wide—has swallowed him.
And left me here unrivalled and alone.

Enter an INDIAN RUNNER.

Ha! There's a message in your eyes—what now?

RUNNER. Your brother, great Tecumseh, has returned,
And rests himself a moment ere he comes
To counsel with you here.

[Exit Runner.]

PROPHET.

He has returned!

So then the growing current of my power
Must fall again into the stately stream
Of his great purpose. But a moment past
I stood upon ambition's height, and now

My brother comes to break my greatness up,
And merge it in his own. I know his thoughts—
That I am but a helper to his ends ;
And, were there not a whirlpool in my soul
Of hatred which would fain engulf our foes,
I would engage my cunning and my craft
'Gainst his simplicity, and win the lead.
But, hist, he comes! I must assume the rôle
By which I pander to his purposes.

Enter TECUMSEH.

TECUMSEH. Who is this standing in the darkened
robes ?

PROPHET. The Prophet ! Olliwayshilla, who probes
The spirit-world, and holds within his ken
Life's secrets and the fateful deeds of men.
The "One-Eyed !" Brother to the Shooting Star—

TECUMSEH. With heart of wax, and hands not made
for war.

PROPHET. Would that my hands were equal to my hate !
Then would strange vengeance traffic on the earth ;
For I should treat our foes to what they crave—
Our fruitful soil—yea, ram it down their throats,
And choke them with the very dirt they love.

'Tis you Tecumseh ! You are here at last,
And welcome as the strong heat-bearing Spring
Which opens up the pathways of revenge.
What tidings from afar ?

TECUMSEH.

Good tidings thence.

I have not seen the Wyandots, but all
The distant nations will unite with us
To spurn the fraudulent treaties of Fort Wayne,
From Talapoosa to the Harricanaw
I have aroused them from their lethargy.
From the hot gulf up to those confines rude,
Where Summer's sides are pierced with icicles,
They stand upon my call. What tidings here ?

PROPHET. No brand has struck to bark our enterprise
Which grows on every side. The Prophet's robe,
That I assumed when old Pengasega died—
With full accord and countenance from you—
Fits a strong shoulder ampler far than his ;
And all our people follow me in fear.

TECUMSEH. Would that they followed you in love !

Proceed !

My ears are open to my brother's tongue.

PROPHET. I have myself, and by swift messengers,
Proclaimed to all the nations far and near,
I am the Open-Door, and have the power

To lead them back to life. The sacred fire
Must burn forever in the red-man's lodge,
Else will that life go out. All earthly goods
By the Great Spirit meant for common use
Must so be held. Red shall not marry white,
To lop our parent stems ; and never more
Must vile, habitual cups of deadliness
Distort their noble natures, and unseat
The purpose of their souls. They must return
To ancient customs ; live on game and maize ;
Clothe them with skins, and love both wife and child,
Nor lift a hand in wrath against their race.

TECUMSEH. These are wise counsels which are
noised afar,
And many nations have adopted them
And made them law.

PROPHET. These counsels were your own !
Good in themselves, they are too weak to sway
Our fickle race. I've much improved on them
Since the Great Spirit took me by the hand.

TECUMSEH. Improved ! and how ? Your mission was
to lead
Our erring people back to ancient ways—
Too long o'ergrown—not bloody sacrifice.
They tell me that the prisoners you have ta'en—

Not captives in fair fight, but wanderers
Bewildered in our woods, or such as till
Outlying fields, caught from the peaceful plough—
You cruelly have tortured at the stake.
Nor this the worst! In order to augment
Your gloomy sway you craftily have played
Upon the zeal and frenzy of our tribes,
And, in my absence, hatched a monstrous charge
Of sorcery amongst them, which hath spared
Nor feeble age nor sex. Such horrid deeds
Recoil on us! Old Shataronra's grave
Sends up its ghost, and Tetaboxti's hairs—
White with sad years and counsel—sung by you!
In dreams and nightmares, float on every breeze.
Ambition's madness might stop short of this,
And shall if I have life.

PROPHET. The Great Spirit
Hath urged me, and still urges me to all.
He puts his hand to mine and leads me on.
Do you not hear him whisper even now—
"Thou art the Prophet?" All our followers
Behold in me a greater than yourself,
And worship me, and venture where I lead.

TECUMSEH. Your fancy is the common slip of fools,
Who count the lesser greater being near.

Dupe of your own imposture and designs,
I cannot bind your thoughts! but what you do
Henceforth must be my subject; so take heed,
And stand within my sanction lest you fall.

PROPHET. You are Tecumseh—else you should choke
for this!

[Haughtily crosses the stage and pauses.]

Stay! Let me think! I must not break with him—

'Tis premature. I know his tender part,

And I shall touch it.

[Recrosses the stage.]

Brother, let me ask,

Do you remember how our father fell?

TECUMSEH. Who can forget Kanawha's bloody fray?
He died for home in battle with the whites.

PROPHET. And you remember, too, that boyish morn,
When all our braves were absent on the chase—
That morn when you and I half-dreaming lay
In summer grass, but woke to deadly pain
Of loud-blown bugles ringing through the air.
They came! —a rush of chargers from the woods,
With trappings, cursings, shoutings manifold,
And headlong onset, fierce with brandished swords,
Of frontier troopers eager for the fight.
Scarce could a lynx have screened itself from sight,
So sudden the attack—yet, trembling there,

We crouched unseen, and saw our little town
Stormed, with vile slaughter of small babe and crone,
And palsied grandsire—you remember it ?

TECUMSEH. Remember it ! Alas, the echoing
Of that wild havoc lingers in my brain !
O wretched age, and injured motherhood,
And hapless maiden-wreck !

PROPHET. Yet this has been
Our endless history, and it is this
Which crams my very veins with cruelty.
My pulses bound to see those devils fall
Brained to the temples, and their women cast
As offal to the wolf.

TECUMSEH. Their crimes are great—
Our wrongs unspeakable ! yet my revenge
Is open war. It never shall be said
Tecumseh's hate went armed with cruelty.
There's reason in revenge ; but spare our own !
These gloomy sacrifices sap our strength ;
And henceforth from your wizard scrutinies
I charge you to forbear. But who's the white
You hold as captive ?

PROPHET. He is called LEFROY—
A captive, but too free to come and go.
Our warriors struck his trail by chance, and found

His tent close by the Wabash, where he lay
With sprained ankle, foodless and alone.
He had a book of pictures with him there
Of Long-Knife forts, encampments and their chiefs—
Most recognizable ; so, reasoning thence,
Our warriors took him for a daring spy,
And brought him here, and tied him to the stake.
Then he declared he was a Saganash—
No Long-Knife he ! but one who loved our race,
And would adopt our ways—with honeyed words,
Couched in sweet voice, and such appealing eyes
That Iena, our niece—who listened near—
Believing, rushed, and cut him from the tree.
I hate his smiles, soft ways, and smooth-paced tread,
And would, ere now, have killed him but for her ;
For ever since, unmindful of her race,
She has upheld him, and our matrons think
That he has won her heart.

TECUMSEH. But not her hand !
This cannot be, and I must see to it :
Red shall not marry white—such is our law.
But graver matters are upon the wing,
Which I must open to you. Know you, then,
The nation that has doomed our Council-Fires—
Splashed with our blood—will on its Father turn,

Once more, whose lion-paws, stretched o'er the sea,
Will sheathe their nails in its unnatural sides,
Till blood will flow, as free as pitch in spring,
To gum the chafed seams of our sinking bark.
This opportunity, well-nursed, will give
A respite to our wrongs, and heal our wounds ;
And all our nations, knit by me and ranged
In headship with our Saganash allies,
Will turn the mortal issue 'gainst our foes,
And wall our threatened frontiers with their slain.
But till that ripened moment, not a sheaf
Of arrows should be wasted, not a brave
Should perish aimlessly, nor discord reign
Amongst our tribes, nor jealousy distract
The large effects of valour. We must now
Pack all our energies. Our eyes and ears
No more must idle with the hour, but work
As carriers to the brain, where we shall store,
As in an arsenal, deep schemes of war !

[A noise and shouting without.]

But who is this ?

*[Enter BARRON accompanied and half-dragged by warriors.
The PROPHET goes forward to meet him.]*

BARRON. I crave protection as a messenger

And agent sent by General Harrison.
Your rude, unruly braves, against my wish,
Have dragged me here as if I were a spy.

PROPHET. What else! Why come you here if not a
spy?

Brouillette came, and Dubois, who were spies—
Now you are here. Look on it! There's your grave.

[*Pointing to the ground at BARRON'S feet.*]

TECUMSEH. (*Joining them.*) Unhand this man! He
is a messenger,

And not a spy. Your life, my friend, is safe
In these rough woods as in your general's town.
But, quick—your message?

BARRON. The Governor of Indiana sends
This letter to you, in the which he says (*Reading letter*)
"You are an enemy to the Seventeen Fires:
I have been told that you intend to lift
The hatchet 'gainst your father, the great Chief,
Whose goodness, being greater than his fear
Or anger at your folly, still would stretch
His bounty to his children who repent,
And ask of him forgiveness for the past.
Small harm is done which may not be repaired,
And friendship's broken chain may be renewed;
But this is in your doing, and depends

Upon the choice you make. Two roads
Are lying now before you : one is large,
Open and pleasant, leading unto peace,
Your own security and happiness ;
The other—narrow, crooked and constrained—
Most surely leads to misery and death.
Be not deceived ! All your united force
Is but as chaff before the Seventeen Fires.
Your warriors are brave, but so are ours ;
Whilst ours are countless as the forest leaves,
Or grains of sand upon the Wabash shores.
Rely not on the English to protect you !
They are not able to protect themselves.
They will not war with us, for, if they do,
Ere many moons have passed our battle flag
Shall wave o'er all the forts of Canada.
What reason have you to complain of us ?
What have we taken ? or what treaties maimed ?
You tell us we have robbed you of your lands—
Bought them from nameless braves and village chiefs
Who had no right to sell—prove that to us,
And they will be restored. I have full power
To treat with you. Bring your complaint to me,
And I, in honor, pledge your safe return."

TECUMSEH. Is this it all ?

BARRON. Yes, all I have commands
To bear your answer back without delay.

PROPHET. This is our answer, then, to Harrison :
Go tell that bearded liar we shall come,
With forces which will pledge our own return !

TECUMSEH. What shall my answer be ?

PROPHET. Why, like my own—
There is no answer save that we shall go.

TECUMSEH. (*To BARRON.*) I fear that our complaint
lies all too deep

For your Chief's curing. The Great Spirit gave
The red men this wide continent as theirs,
And in the east another to the white ;
But, not content at home, these crossed the sea,
And drove our fathers from their ancient seats.
Their sons in turn are driven to the Lakes,
And cannot further go unless they drown.
Yet now you take upon yourselves to say
This tract is Kickapoo, this Delaware,
And this Miami ; but your Chief should know
That all our lands are common to our race !
How can one nation sell the rights of all
Without consent of all ? No ! For my part
I am a Red Man, not a Shawanoe,
And here I mean to stay. Go to your chief,

And tell him I shall meet him at Vincennes.

Exeunt all but TECUMSEH.

What is there in my nature so supine
 That I must ever quarrel with revenge?
 From vales and rivers which were once our own
 The pale hounds who uproot our ancient graves
 Come whining for our lands, with fawning tongues,
 And schemes and subterfuge and subtleties.
 O for a Pontiac to drive them back
 And whoop them to their shuddering villages!
 O for an age of valour like to his,
 When freedom clothed herself with solitude,
 And one in heart the scattered nations stood,
 And one in hand. It comes! and mine shall be
 The lofty task to teach them to be free—
 To knit the nations, bind them into one,
 And end the task great Pontiac begun!

SCENE II.—ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST.

*Enter LEFROY, carrying his rifle, and examining a knot
 of wild flowers.*

|| LEFROY. This region is as lavish of its flowers
 As Heaven of its primrose blooms by night.
 This is the Arum which within its root

Folds life and death ; and this the Prince's Pine,
Fadeless as love and truth—the fairest form
That ever sun-shower washed with sudden rain.
This golden cradle is the Moccasin Flower,
Wherein the Indian hunter sees his hound ;
And this dark chalice is the Pitcher-Plant
Stored with the water of forgetfulness.

Whoever drinks of it, whose heart is pure,
Will sleep for aye 'neath foodful asphodel,
And dream of endless love. [I need it not !

I am awake, and yet I dream of love.

It is the hour of meeting, when the sun
Takes level glances at these mighty woods,
And Iena has never failed till now,
To meet me here ! What keeps her ? Can it be
The Prophet ? Ah, that villain has a thought,
Undreamt of by his simple followers,
Dark in his soul as midnight ! If—but no—
He fears her though he hates !

What shall I do ?

Rehearse to listening woods, or ask these oaks
What thoughts they have, what knowledge of the past ?
They dwarf me with their greatness, but shall come
A meaner and a mightier than they,
And cut them down. Yet rather would I dwell

With them, with wildness and its stealthy forms—
 Yea, rather with wild men, wild beasts and birds,
 Than in the sordid town that here may rise.
 For here I am a part of Nature's self,
 And not divorced from her like men who plod
 The weary streets of care in search of gain.
 And here I feel the friendship of the earth :
 Not the soft cloying tenderness of hand
 Which fain would satiate the hungry soul
 With household honey-combs and parloured sweets,
 But the strong friendship of primeval things—
 The rugged kindness of a giant heart,
 And love that lasts.

I have a poem made

Which doth concern earth's injured majesty—
 Be audience, ye still untroubled stems !

*Here Lippitt hall continues; its end? Recitation
 This is in Rand's Learning class (Recites.)*

|| There was a time on this fair continent
 When all things throve in spacious peacefulness.
 The prosperous forests unmolested stood,
 For where the stalwart oak grew there it lived
 Long ages, and then died among its kind.
 The hoary pines—those ancients of the earth—
 Brimful of legends of the early world,

Stood thick on their own mountains unsubdued.
And all things else illumined by the sun,
Inland or by the lifted wave, had rest.
The passionate [or calm] pageants of the skies *The calm or passionate*
No artist drew ; but in the auburn west
Innumerable faces of fair cloud
Vanished in silent darkness with the day.
The prairie realm—vast ocean's paraphrase—
Rich in wild grasses numberless, and flowers
Unnamed save in mute Nature's inventory
No civilized barbarian trenched for gain.
And all that flowed was sweet and uncorrupt.
The rivers and their tributary streams,
Undammed, wound on forever, and gave up
Their lonely torrents to weird gulfs of sea,
And ocean wastes unshadowed by a sail.
And all the wild life of this western world
Knew not the fear of man ; yet in those woods,
And by those plenteous streams and mighty lakes,
And on stupendous steppes of peerless plain,
And in the rocky gloom of canyons deep,
Screened by the stony ribs of mountains hoar
Which steeped their snowy peaks in purging cloud,
And down the continent where tropic suns
Warmed to her very heart the mother earth,
And in the congeal'd north where silence self
Ached with intensity of stubborn frost,
There lived a soul more wild than barbarous ;
A tameless soul—the sunburnt savage free—

Free, and untainted by the greed of gain :
Great Nature's man content with Nature's food.

But hark ! I hear her footsteps in the leaves—
And so my poem ends.

Enter IENA, downcast.

My love ! my love !

What ! Iena in tears ! your looks, like clouds,
O'erspread my joy which, but a moment past,
Rose like the sun to high meridian.
Ah, how is this ? She trembles, and she starts,
And looks with wavering eyes through oozing tears,
As she would fly from me. Why do you weep ?

IENA. I weep, for I have come to say—farewell.

LEFROY. Farewell ! I have fared well in love till now ;
For you are mine, and I am yours, so say
Farewell, farewell, a thousand times farewell.

IENA. How many meanings has the word ? since yours
Is full of joy, but mine, alas, of pain.
The pale-face and the Shawanoe must part.

LEFROY. Must part ? Yes part—we parted yesterday—
And shall to-day—some dream disturbs my love.

IENA. Oh, that realities were dreams ! 'Tis not
A dream that parts us, but a stern command.

Tecumseh has proclaimed it as his law—
Red shall not marry white ; so must you leave ;
And therefore I have come to say farewell.

LEFROY. That word is barbed, and like an arrow aimed.
The maid who saved my life would mar it too !

IENA. Speak not of that ! Your life's in danger now.
Tecumseh has returned, and—knowing all—
Has built a barrier betwixt our loves,
More rigid than a palisade of oak.

LEFROY. What means he ? And what barrier is this ?

IENA. The barrier is the welfare of our race—
Wherefore his law—"Red shall not marry white."
His noble nature halts at cruelty,
So fear him not ! But in the Prophet's hand,
Dark, dangerous and bloody, there is death,
And, sheltered by Tecumseh's own decree,
He who misprizes you, and hates, will strike—
Then go at once ! Alas for Iena, *Eena*
Who loves her race too well to break its law.

LEFROY. I love you better than I love my race ;
And could I mass my fondness for my friends,
Augment it with my love of noble brutes,
Tap every spring of reverence and respect,
And all affections bright and beautiful—
Still would my love for you outweigh them all.

IENA. Speak not of love ! Speak of the Long-Knife's
hate !

Oh, it is pitiful to creep in fear
O'er lands where once our fathers stept in pride !
The Long-Knife strengthens, whilst our race decays,
And falls before him as our forests fall.
First comes his pioneer, the bee, and soon
The mast which plumped the wild deer fats his swine.
His cattle pasture where the bison fed ;
His flowers, his very weeds, displace our own—
Aggressive as himself. All, all thrust back !
Destruction follows us, and swift decay.
Oh, I have lain for hours upon the grass,
And gazed into the tenderest blue of heaven—
Cleansed as with dew, so limpid, pure and sweet—
All flecked with silver packs of standing cloud
Most beautiful ! But watch them narrowly !
Those clouds will sheer small fleeces from their sides,
Which, melting in our sight as in a dream,
Will vanish all like phantoms in the sky.
So melts our heedless race ! Some weaned away,
And wedded to rough-handed pioneers,
Who, fierce as wolves in hatred of our kind,
{ Yet from their shrill and acid women turn,
{ Prizing our maidens for their gentleness.
Some by outlandish fevers die, and some—

Caught in the white man's toils and vices mean—
Court death, and find it in the trader's cup.
And all are driven from their heritage,
Far from our fathers' seats and sepulchres,
And girdled with the growing glooms of war ;
Resting a moment here, a moment there,
Whilst ever through our plains and forest realms
Bursts the pale spoiler, armed, with eager quest,
And ruinous lust of land. I think of all—
And own Tecumseh right. 'Tis he alone
Can stem this tide of sorrows dark and deep ;
So must I bend my feeble will to his,
And, for my people's welfare, banish love.

LEFROY. Nay, for your people's welfare keep your love !
My heart is true : I know that braggart nation,
Whose sordid instincts, cold and pitiless,
Would cut you off, and drown your Council-Fires.
I would defend you, therefore keep me here !
My love is yours alone, my hand I give,
With this good weapon in it, to your race.

IENA. Oh, heaven help a weak untutored maid,
Whose head is warring 'gainst a heart that tells,
With every throb, I love you. Leave me ! Fly !

LEFROY. I kneel to you—it is my leave-taking,
So, bid me fly again, and break my heart !

(IENA *sings.*)

Fly far from me,
 Even as the daylight flies,
 And leave me in the darkness of my pain!
 Some earlier love will come to thee again,
 And sweet new moons will rise,
 And smile on it and thee.

Fly far from me,
 Even whilst the daylight wastes—
 Ere thy lips burn me in a last caress ;
 Ere fancy quickens, and my longings press,
 And my weak spirit hastes
 For shelter unto thee !

Fly far from me,
 Even whilst the daylight pales—
 So shall we never, never meet again !
 Fly ! for my senses swim—Oh, Love ! Oh, Pain !—
 Help ! for my spirit fails—
 I cannot fly from thee !

[IENA *stinks into* LEFROY'S *arms.*

LEFROY. No Iéna ! You cannot fly from me—
 My heart is in your breast, and yours in mine ;
 Therefore our love—

Enter TECUMSEH, *followed by* MAMATEE.

TECUMSEH. False girl! Is this your promise?
Would that I had a pale-face for a niece—
Not one so faithless to her pledge! You owe
All duty and affection to your race,
Whose interest—the sum of our desires—
Traversed by alien love, drops to the ground.

IENA. Tecumseh ne'er was cruel until now.
Call not love alien which includes our race—
Love for our people, pity for their wrongs!
He loves our race because his heart is here—
And mine is in his breast. Oh, ask him there,
And he will tell you—

LEFROY. Iena, let me speak!
Tecumseh, we as strangers have become
Strangely familiar through sheer circumstance,
Which often breeds affection or disdain,
Yet lighting but the surface of the man,
Shows not his heart. I know not what you think,
And care not for your favour or your love,
Save as desert may crown me. Your decree,
"Red shall not marry white," is arbitrary,
And off the base of nature; for if they

Should marry not, then neither should they love.
Yet Iena loves me, and I love her.
Be merciful! I ask not Iena
To leave her race; I rather would engage
These willing arms in her defence and yours.
Heap obligation up, conditions stern—
But send not your cold "Nay" athwart our lives.

IENA. Be merciful! Oh, uncle, pity us!

TECUMSEH. My pity, Iena, goes with reproach,
Blunting the edge of anger; yet my will
Is fixed, and the command to be obeyed—
This stranger must depart—you to your lodge!

MAMATEE. Tecumseh, I am in the background here,
As ever I have been in your affection.
For I have ne'er known what good women prize—
Earth's greatest boon to them—a husband's love.

TECUMSEH. My nation has my love, in which you share,
With special service rendered to yourself;
So that your cabin flows with mouffles sweet,
And hips of wapiti and bedded robes.
Teach me my duty further if you will!
My love is wide, and broods upon my race.

MAMATEE. The back is clad—the heart, alas! goes
bare.

Oh, I would rather shiver in the snow—

I shall respect your love, (*To Lefroy.*) your safety too.
 I go at once to sound the Wyandots
 Concerning some false treaties with the whites.
 The Prophet hates you, therefore come with me.

[*The PROPHET rushes in with a band of Braves.*

PROPHET. She's here! Take hold of her and bear her
 off!

TECUMSEH. (*Menacingly*) Beware! Lay not a finger
 on the girl!

[*The Braves fall back.*

PROPHET. There is no law Tecumseh will not break,
 When women weep, and pale-face spies deceive.

MAMATEE. Ah, wretch! not all our people's groans
 could wring

A single tear from out your murderous eye.

PROPHET. This is my captive, and his life is mine!

[*Seizing LEFROY, and lifting his hatchet.*

IENA. (*Rushing to LEFROY*) Save him! Save him!

TECUMSEH. Your life will go for his—

One blow and you are doomed!

[*TECUMSEH grasps the PROPHET'S uplifted axe.*

END OF FIRST ACT.

ACT II.

SCENE FIRST :—BEFORE THE PROPHE'T'S TOWN.

Enter TECUMSEH and LEFROY.

TECUMSEH. No guard or outlook - here ! This is most
strange.

(Chance reigns where prudence sleeps !

Enter a BRAVE.

Here comes a brave
With frenzy in his face. Where is the Prophet ? -

BRAVE. He fasts alone within the medicine-lodge,
And talks to our Great Spirit. All our braves,
Huddling in fear, stand motionless without,
Thrilled by strange sounds, and voices not of earth.

TECUMSEH. How long has it been thus ?

BRAVE. Four nights have passed
And none have seen his face ; but all have heard
His dreadful tongue, in incantations deep,
Fetch horrors up - vile beings flashed from hell,

TECUMSEH. 'Tis well !

My brother has the eyeball of the horse,
And swerves from danger. (*Aside.*) Bid our warriors come !
I wait them here.

[*Exit BRAVE.*

The Prophet soon will follow.

LEFROY. Now opportunity attend my heart
Which waits for Iena ! True love's behest,
Outrunning war's, will bring her to my arms
Ere cease the braves from gasping wonderment.

TECUMSEH. First look on service ere you look on love ;
You shall not see her here.

LEFROY. My promises
Are sureties of my service—

TECUMSEH. But your deeds,
Accomplishments ; our people count on deeds.
Be patient ! Look upon our warriors
Roped round with scars and cicatrized wounds,
Inflicted in deep trial of their spirit
Their skewered sides are proofs of manly souls,
Which—had one groan escaped from agony—
Would all have sunk beneath our women's heels,
Unfit for earth or heaven. So try your heart,
And let endurance swallow all love's sighs.
Yoke up your valour with our people's cause,

And I, who love your nation, which is just,
 When deeds deserve it, will adopt you here,
 By ancient custom of our race, and join
 Iena's hand to yours.

LEFROY. Your own hand first
 In pledge of this !

TECUMSEH. It ever goes with truth !

LEFROY: Now come some wind of chance, and show
 me her
 But for one heavenly moment ! as when leaves
 Are blown aside in summer, and we see
 The nested oriole.

*[Enter Chiefs and warriors—The warriors cluster
 around TECUMSEH, shouting and discharging their
 pieces.]*

TECUMSEH. My chiefs and braves !

MIAMI CHIEF. Fall back ! Fall back ! Ye press too
 close on him.

TECUMSEH. My friends ! our joy is like to meeting
 streams,
 Which draw into a deep and prouder bed.

[Shouts from the warriors.]

DELAWARE CHIEF. Silence, ye braves ! let great Te-
 cumseh speak !

[The warriors fall back.]

TECUMSEH. Comrades, and faithful warriors of our
race!

Ye who defeated Harmar and St. Clair,
(And made their hosts a winter's feast for wolves !
I call on you to follow me again,
Not now for war, but as forearmed for fight.
As ever in the past so is it still :
Our sacred treaties are infringed and torn ;
Laughed out of sanctity, and spurned away ;
Used by the Long-Knife's slave to light his fire,
Or turned to kites by thoughtless boys, whose wrists
(Anchor their fathers' lies in front of heaven.
And now we're asked to Council at Vincennes ;
To bend to lawless ravage of our lands,
To treacherous bargains, contracts false, wherein
One side is bound, the other loose as air !
Where are those villains of our race and blood
Who signed the treaties that unseat us here ;
That rob us of rich plains and forests wide ;
And which, consented to, will drive us hence
To stage our lodges in the Northern Lakes,
In penalties of hunger worse than death ?
Where are they ? that we may confront them now
With your wronged sires, your mothers, wives and babes,
And, wringing from their false and slavish lips

Confession of their baseness, brand with shame
The traitor hands which sign us to our graves.

MIAMI CHIEF. Some are age-bent and blind, and others
sprawl,
And stagger in the Long-Knife's villages ;
And some are dead, and some have fled away,
And some are lurking in the forest here,
Sneaking, like dogs, until resentment cools.

KICKAPOO CHIEF. We all disclaim their treaties.
Should they come,
Forced from their lairs by hunger, to our doors,
Swift punishment will light upon their heads.

TECUMSEH. Put yokes upon them ! let their mouths
be bound !
For they are swine, who root with champing jaws
Their fathers' fields, and swallow their own offspring.

Enter the PROPHET in his robe—his face discoloured.

The Prophet !
Welcome, my brother, from the lodge of dreams !
Hail to thee, sagest among men—great heir
Of all the wisdom of Pengasega !

PROPHET. This pale-face here again ! this hateful
snake,

Who crawls between our people and their laws ! (*Aside.*)
Your greeting, brother, takes the chill from mine,
When last we parted you were not so kind.

TECUMSEH. The Prophet's wisdom covers all. He
knows

(Why Nature varies in her handiwork,
Moulding one man from snow, the next from fire—

PROPHET. Which temper is your own, and blazes up,
(In winds of passion like a burning pine.

TECUMSEH. 'Twill blaze no more unless to scorch our
foes.

My brother, there's my hand—for I am grieved
That aught befell to shake our proper love.
Our purpose is too high, and full of danger ;
We have too vast a quarrel on our hands
To waste our breath on this.

[*Steps forward and offers his hand.*

PROPHET. My hand to yours.

SEVERAL CHIEFS. Tecumseh and the Prophet are re-
joined !

TECUMSEH. Now, but one petty cloud distains our sky.
My brother, this man loves our people well.

[*Pointing to LEFROY.*

LEFROY. I know he hates me, yet I hope to win
My way into his heart.

Good deeds are ne'er forespent, nor wiped away.
I know these men ; they've lost their followers,
And, grasping at the shadow of command,
Where sway and custom once had realty,
By times, and turn about, follow each other.
They count for nought—but Winnemac is true,
Though over-politic ; he will not leave us.

PROPHET. Those wizened snakes must be destroyed at
once !

TECUMSEH. Have mercy, brother—those poor men
are old.

PROPHET. Nay, I shall teaze them till they sting them-
selves ;
Their rusty fangs are doubly dangerous.

TECUMSEH. What warriors are ready for Vincennes ?

WARRIORS. All ! All are ready.

Tecumseh leads us on—we follow him.

TECUMSEH. Four hundred warriors will go with me,
All armed, yet only for security
Against the deep designs of Harrison.
For 'tis my purpose still to temporize,
Not break with him in war till once again
I scour the far emplacements of our tribes.
Then shall we close at once on all our foes.
They claim our lands, but we shall take their lives ;

Drive out their thievish souls, and spread their bones
To bleach upon the misty Alleghanies ;
Or make death's treaty with them on the spot,
And sign our bloody marks upon their crowns
For lack of schooling—ceding but enough
Of all the lands they covet for their graves.

MIAMI CHIEF. Tecumseh's tongue is housed in wisdom's cheeks ;

His valour and his prudence march together.

DELAWARE CHIEF. 'Tis wise to draw the distant nations on.

This scheme will so extend the Long-Knife force,
In lines defensive stretching to the sea,
Their bands will be but morsels for our braves.

PROPHET. How long must this bold project take to ripen ?

Time marches with the foe, and his surveyors
Already smudge our forests with their fires.
It frets my blood and makes my bowels turn
To see those devils blaze our ancient oaks,
Cry "right !" and drive their rascal pickets down.
Why not make war on them at once ?

TECUMSEH.

Not now !

Time will make room for weightier affairs.
Be this the disposition for the hour :

Our warriors from Vincennes will all return,
Save twenty—the companions of my journey—
And this brave white, who longs to share our toil,
And win his love by deeds in our defence.
You, brother, shall remain to guard our town,
Our wives, our children, all that's dear to us—
Receive each fresh accession to our strength ;
And from the hidden world, which you inspect,
Draw a divine instruction for their souls.
Go, now, ye noble chiefs and warriors !
Make preparation—I'll be with you soon.
(To-morrow we shall make the Wabash boil,
And beat its current, racing to Vincennes.

[*Exeunt all but TECUMSEH and the PROPHET.*

PROPHET. I shall return unto our sacred lodge,
And there invoke the Spirit of the Wind
To follow you, and blow good tidings back.

TECUMSEH. Our strait is such we need the help of
heaven.

Use all your wisdom, brother, but—beware !
Pluck not our enterprise while it is green,
And breed no quarrel here till I return.
Avoid it as you would the rattling snake ;
And, when you hear the sound of danger, shrink,
And face it not, unless with belts of peace.

White wampum, not the dark, till we can strike
With certain aim. Can I depend on you?

PROPHET. Trust you in fire to burn, or cold to freeze?
So may you trust in me. The heavy charge
(Which you have laid upon my shoulders now
Would weigh the very soul of rashness down.

[*Exit the* PROPHET.]

TECUMSEH. I think I can depend on him—I must!
Yet do I know his crafty nature well—
His hatred of our foes, his love of self,
And wide ambition. What is mortal man?
Who can divine this creature that doth take
Some colour from all others? Nor shall I
Push cold conclusions 'gainst my brother's sum
Of what is good—so let dependence rest!

[*Exit.*]

SCENE SECOND—VINCENNES—A STREET.

Enter Citizens GERKIN, SLAUGH and TWANG.

GERKIN. Ain't it about time Barron was back, Jedge?

TWANG. I reckon so. Our Guvner takes a crazy sight
more pains than I would to sweetin that ragin' devil
Tecumseh's temper. I'd sweetin it wi' sugar o' lead ef I
had *my way*.

SLAUGH. It's a reekin' shame—dang me ef it aint. End thet two-faced, one-eyed brother o' his, the Prophet. —I'll be darned ef folks don't say thet the Shakers in them 'ere parts claims him fer a disciple!

TWANG. Them Shakers is a queer lot. They dance jest like wild Injuns, and thinks we orter be kind to the red rascals, end use them honestly.

GERKIN. Wall! Thet's what our Guvner ses tew. But I reckon he's shammin' a bit. Twixt you and me, he's on the make like the rest o' us. Think o' bein' kind to a red devil thet would lift your har ten minutes arter! End as fer honesty—I say “set 'em up” every time, and then rob 'em. Thet's the way to clar them out o' the kentry. Whiskey's better 'n gunpowder, end costs less than fightin' 'em in the long run.

Enter CITIZEN BLOAT.

TWANG. Thet's so! Hello, Major, what's up? You look kind o' riled to-day.

BLOAT. Wall, Jedge, I dew feel right mad—have you heerd the noos?

TWANG. No! has old Sledge bust you at the keerds again?

BLOAT. Old Sledge be darned! I had jest clar'd him

out o' continentals—fifty to the shillin'—at his own game, when in ript Roudi—the Eytalian that knifed the Mus-koe Injun for peekin' through his bar-room winder last spring—jest down from Fort Knox. You know the chap, General; you was on his jury.

SLAUGH. I reckon I dew. The Court was agin him, but we acquitted him afore the Chief-Justice finished his charge, and gave him a vote o' thanks to boot. There's a heap o' furriners creepin' inter these parts—poor down-trodden cusses from Europe—end, ef they're all like Roudi, they'll dew—a'most as hendy wi' the knife as our own people. But what's up?

BLOAT. Roudi saw Barron at Fort Knox, restin' thar on his way back from the Prophet's Town, end he sez thet red assassin Tecumseh's a-cumin' down wi' four hundred o' his painted devils to converse wi' our Guvner. They're all armed, he sez, end will be here afore mid-day.

SLAUGH. Wall! our Guvner notified him to come—he's only gettin' what he axed for. There'll be a deal o' loose har flitterin' about the streets afore night, I reckon. Harrison's a heap too soft wi' them red roosters; he h'aint got cheek enough.

GERKIN. I've heerd say the Guvner, end the Chief Justice tew, thinks a sight o' this tearin' red devil. They say he's a great man. They say, tew, thet our treaty Injuns

air badly used—thet they shouldn't be meddled wi' on their resarves, end should hev skoolin'.

BLOAT. Skoolin'! That gits me! Dogoned ef I wouldn't larn them jest one thing—what them regler officers up to the Fort larns their dogs—“to drap to shot,” only in a different kind o' way like; end, es fer their resarves, I say, give our farmers a chance—let them locate!

TWANG. Thet's so, Major! What arthly use air they—plouterin' about their little bits o' fields, wi' their little bits o' cabins, end livin' half the time on mush-rats? I say, let them move out, end give reliable citizens a chance.

SLAUGH. Wall, I reckon our Guvner's kind's about played out. They call themselves the old stock—the clean pea—the rale gentlemen o' the Revolooshun. But, gentlemen, ain't we the Revolooshun? Jest wait till the live citizens o' these United States end Territories gits a chance, end we'll show them gentry what a free people, wi' our institooshuns, *kin* do. There'll be no more talk o' skoolin fer Injuns, you bet! I'd give them Kernel Crunch's billet.

GERKIN. What was thet, General?

SLAUGH. Why, they say he killed a hull family o' red-skins, and stuck 'em up as scar-crows in his wheat fields. Gentlemen, there's nothin' like original ideas!

TWANG. Thet war an original idee! The Kernel order.

hev tuk out a patent. I think I've heerd o' Crunch. Warn't he wi' Kernel Crawford, o' the melish', at one time?

SLAUGH. Whar?

TWANG. Why over to the Muskingum. You've heerd o' them Delaware Moravians over to the Muskingum, surely?

SLAUGH. Oh, them converted chaps! but I a'most forgit the carcumstance.

TWANG. Wall, them red devils had a nice resarve thar—as yieldin' a bit o' sile as one could strike this side o' the Alleghanies. They was all converted by the Moravians, end pertended to be as quiet and peaceable as the Shakers hereabout. But Kernel Crawford—who knew good sile when he sot his eyes on it—diskivered thet them prayin' chaps had helped a war-party from the North wi' provisions—or thort they did, which was the same thing. So—one fine Sunday—he surrounds their church wi' his melish'—when the Injuns was all a-prayin'—end walks in himself, jest for a minute or two, end prays a bit so as not to skeer them tew soon, end then walks out, end locks the door. The Kernel then cutely—my heart kind o' warms to thet man—put a squad o' melish' at each winder wi' their bayonets pinted, end sot fire to the Church, end charred up the hull kit, preacher and all! The heft o' them was burnt; but

some thet warn't thar skinned out o' the kentry, end got lands from the British up to the Thames River in Canady, end founded what they call the Moravian Towns thar; and thar they is still—fur them Britishers kind o' pampers the Injuns, so they may git at our scalps.

SLAUGH. I reckon we'll hev a tussle wi' them gentry afore long. But for Nop England we'd a hed it afore now; but them Noo Englanders kind o' curries to the Britishers. A war would spile their shippin', end so they're agin it. But we h'aint got no ships to spile in this western kentry, end so I reckon we'll pitch in.

GERKIN. We'd better git out o' this Injun fry-pan fust, old hoss! I could lick my own weight in wild-cats, but this ruck o' Injuns is jest a little tew hefty.

BLOAT. Maybe they want to come to skool, end start store, end sich!

GERKIN. Gentlemen—I mean to send my lady down stream, end I reckon you'd better dew the same wi' your 'uns—jest fer safety like. My time's limited—will you liquor?

ALL. You bet!

BLOAT. (*Meditatively*) Skoolin! Wall, I'll be darned!

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE THIRD. THE SAME. A ROOM IN GENERAL
HARRISON'S HOUSE.

Enter GENERAL HARRISON, and some Officers of the American Army.

HARRISON. What savage handiwork keeps Barton
back ?

Enter BARRON.

Ah, here he comes, his looks interpreting
Mischief and failure ! It is as I feared.
What answer do you bring ?

BARRON. Tecumseh comes
To council, with four hundred men at back,
To which, with all persuasion, I objected—
As that it would alarm our citizens,
Whose hasty temper, by suspicion-edged,
Might break in broils of quarrel with his braves ;
But, sir, it was in vain—so be prepared !
Your Council records may be writ in blood.

HARRISON. Will he attack us, think you ?

BARRON. No, not now.
His present thought is to intimidate.
But, lest some rash and foul-mouthed citizen

Should spur his passion to the run, fore-arm !

HARRISON. Tut ! Arms are scarce as soldiers in our
town,

And I am sick of requisitioning.

Nay, we must trust to something else than arms.

Tecumseh is a savage but in name—

Let's trust to him ! What says he of our treaties ?

BARRON. O, he discharges them as heavy loads,
Which borne by red men only, break their backs.

All lands, he says, are common to his race ;

Not to be sold but by consent of all.

HARRISON. Absurd ! This proposition would prevent
All purchase and all progress. No, indeed ;

We cannot tie our hands with such conditions.

What of the Prophet ? Comes he with the rest ?

BARRON. The Prophet stays behind.

HARRISON. He is a foil

Used by Tecumseh to augment his greatness ;

And, by good husbandry of incantation,

And gloomy charms by night, this Prophet works

So shrewdly on their braves that every man,

Inflamed by auguries of victory,

Would rush on death.

1ST OFFICER.

Why, General, I heard

He over-trumpet you once and won the trick.

HARRISON. How so?

1ST OFFICER. Well, once, before his braves, 'tis said,
You dared him to a trial of his spells,
Which challenge he accepted, having heard
From white men of a coming sun-eclipse.
Then, shrewdly noting day and hour, he called
Boldly his followers round him, and declared
That he would hide the sun. They stood and gazed,
And, when the moon's colossal shadow fell,
They crouched upon the ground, and worshippèd him.

HARRISON. He caught me there, and mischief came of
it.

Oh, he is deep. How different those brothers!

(One dipt in craft, the dye of cruelty,
The other frank and open as the day.

Enter an ORDERLY.

ORDERLY. Tecumseh and his braves have reached the
landing!

[Excitement. All rise hastily.]

HARRISON. This room is smaller than our audience:
Take seats and benches to the portico—
There we shall treat with him.

[Exeunt all but GENERAL HARRISON.]

Could I but strain
 My charge this chief might be our trusty friend.
 Yet I am but my nation's servitor ;
 Gold is the king who overrides the right,
 And turns our people from the simple ways,
 And fair ideal of our fathers' lives.

[*Exit.*]

SCENE FOURTH.—THE SAME. THE PORTICO OF
 GENERAL HARRISON'S HOUSE. AN OPEN GROVE AT A
 LITTLE DISTANCE IN FRONT.

[*Curtain rises and discovers GENERAL HARRISON,
 army officers and citizens, of various quality, includ-
 ing TWANG, SLAUGH, GERKIN and BLOAT, seated
 in the portico. A sergeant and guard of soldiers
 near by.*]

*Enter TECUMSEH and his followers with LEFROY in
 Indian dress. They all stop at the grove.*

HARRISON. Why halts he there ?
 Go tell him he is welcome to our house.

[*An Orderly goes down with message.*]

1ST OFFICER. How grave and decorous they look—
 "the mien
 Of pensive people born in ancient woods."

But look at him ! Look at Tecumseh there—
 How simple in attire ! that eagle plume
 Sole ornament, and emblem of his spirit.
 And yet, far-scanned, there's something in his face
 That likes us not. Would we were out of this !

HARRISON. Yes ; even at a distance I can see
 (His eyes distilling anger. 'Tis no sign
 Of treachery, which ever drapes with smiles
 The most perfidious purpose. Our poor strength
 Would fall at once should he break out on us ;
 But let us hope 'tis yet a war of wits
 Where firmness may enact the part of force.

[*Orderly returns.*

What answer do you bring ?

ORDERLY.

Tecumseh says :

“ Houses are built for whites—the red man's house,
 Leaf-roofed, and walled with living oak, is there—

[*Pointing to the grove.*

Let our white brother meet us in it !”

2ND OFFICER.

Oh !

White brother ! So he levels to your height,
 And strips your office of its dignity.

3RD OFFICER. 'Tis plain he cares not for your dignity,

And touchingly reminds us of our tenets.
 Our nation spurns the outward shows of state,
 And ceremony dies for lack of service.

Pomp is discrowned, and throned regality
Dissolved away in our new land and laws.

(Man is the Presence here !

1ST OFFICER. Well, for my part,
I like not that one in particular.

[*Pointing toward TECUMSEH.*

3RD OFFICER. No more do I ! I wish I were a crab,
And had its courtly fashion of advancing.

HARRISON. Best yield to him, the rather that he now
Invites our confidence. His heavy force
Scants good opinion somewhat, yet I know
There's honor, aye, and kindness in this Chief.

[*Rising.*

3RD OFFICER. Yes, faith, he loves us all, and means
to keep
Locks of our hair for memory. Here goes.

[*All rise.*

*Servants and soldiers carry chairs and benches to the
grove, followed by GENERAL HARRISON and others,
who seat themselves—TECUMSEH and his followers
still standing in the lower part of the grove.*

HARRISON. We have not met to bury our respect,
Or mar our plea with lack of courtesy.
The Great Chief knows it is his father's wish
That he should sit by him.

TECUMSEH.

My father's wish !

My father is the sun ; the earth my mother

[Pointing to each in turn.]

And on her mighty bosom I shall rest.

[TECUMSEH and his followers seat themselves on the grass.]

HARRISON. *(Rising.)* I asked Tecumseh to confer
with me,

Not in war's hue, but for the ends of peace.

Our own intent—witness our presence here,

Unarmed save those few muskets and our swords.

How comes it, then, that he descends on us

With this o'erbearing and untimely strength ?

Tecumseh's virtues are the theme of all ;

Wisdom and courage, frankness and good faith—

To speak of these things is to think of him !

Yet, as one theft makes men suspect the thief—

Be all his life else spent in honesty—

So does one breach of faithfulness in man

Wound all his after deeds. There is a pause

In some men's goodness like the barren time

Of those sweet trees which yield each second year,

Wherein what seems a niggardness in nature

Is but good husbandry for future gifts.

But this tree bears, and bears most treacherous fruit !

Here is a gross infringement of all laws
That shelter men in council, where should sit
No disproportioned force save that of reason—
Our strong dependence still, and argument,
Of better consequence than that of arms,
If great Tecumseh should give ear to it.

TECUMSEH. (*Rising.*) You called upon Tecumseh and
he came!

You sent your messenger, asked us to bring
Our wide complaint to you—and it is here!

[*Waving his arm toward his followers.*]

Why is our brother angry at our force,
(Since every man but represents a wrong?

Nay! rather should our force be multiplied!

Fill up your streets and overflow your fields,
And crowd upon the earth for standing room;
Still would our wrongs outweigh our witnesses,
And scant recital for the lack of tongues.

I know your reason, and its bitter heart,
Its form of justice, clad with promises—
The cloaks of death! That reason was the snare
Which tripped our ancestors in days of yore—
Who knew not falsehood and so feared it not:
Men who mistook your fathers' vows for truth,
And took them, cold and hungry, to their hearts,

Filled them with food, and shared with them their homes,
With such return as might make baseness blush.
What tree e'er bore such treacherous fruit as this?
But let it pass! let wrongs die with the wronged!
The red man's memory is full of graves.
But wrongs live with the living, who are here—
Inheritors of all our fathers' sighs,
And tears, and garments wringing wet with blood.
The injuries which you have done to us
Cry out for remedy, or wide revenge.
Restore the forests you have robbed us of—
Our stolen homes and vales of plenteous corn!
Give back the boundaries, which are our lives,
Ere the axe rise! aught else is reasonless.

HARRISON. Tecumseh's passion is a dangerous flood
Which sweeps away his judgment. Let him lift
His threatened axe to hit defenceless heads!
It cannot mar the body of our right,
Nor graze the even justice of our claim:
These still would live, uncanceled by our death.
Let reason rule us, in whose sober light
We read those treaties which offend him thus:
What nation was the first established here,
Settled for centuries, with title sound?
You know that people, the Miamies, well.

Long ere the white man tripped his anchors cold,
To cast them by the glowing western isles,
They lived upon these lands in peace, and none
Dared cavil at their claim. We bought from them,
For such equivalent to largess joined,
That every man was hampered with our goods,
And stumbled on profusion. But give ear!
Jealous lest aught might fail of honesty—
Lest one lean interest or poor shade of right
Should point at us—we made the Kickapoo
And Delaware the sharer of our gifts,
And stretched the arms of bounty over heads
Which held but by Miami sufferance.
But, you! whence came you? and what rights have you?
The Shawanoes are interlopers here—
Witness their name! mere wanderers from the South!
Spurned thence by angry Creek and Yamasee—
Now here to stir up strife, and tempt the tribes
To break the seals of faith. I am surprised
That they should be so led, and more than grieved
Tecumseh has such ingrates at his back.

TECUMSEH. Call you those ingrates who but claim
their own,
And owe you nothing but revenge? Those men
Are here to answer and confront your lies.

[Turning to his followers.]

Miami, Delaware and Kickapoo !

Ye are alleged as signers of those deeds—

Those dark and treble treacheries of Fort Wayne.—

Ye chiefs whose cheeks are tanned with battle-smoke,

Stand forward then, and answer if you did it !

KICKAPOO CHIEF. (*Rising.*) Not I ! I disavow them !

They were made

By village chiefs whose vanity o'ercame

Their judgment, and their duty to our race.

DELAWARE CHIEF. (*Rising.*) And I reject the treaties

in the name

Of all our noted braves and warriors.

They have no weight save with the palsied heads

Which dote on friendly compacts in the past.

MIAMI CHIEF. (*Rising.*) And I renounce them also.

They were signed

By sottish braves—the Long-Knife's tavern-chiefs—

Who sell their honor like a pack of fur,

Make favour with the pale-face for his fee,

And caper with the hatchet for his sport.

I am a chief by right of blood, and fling

Your false and flimsy treaties in your face.

I am my nation's head, and own but one

As greater than myself, and he is here !

[*Pointing to* TECUMSEH.

TECUMSEH. You have your answer, and from those
whose rights

Stand in your own admission. But from me—

The Shawanoe—the interloper here—

Take the full draught of meaning, and wash down

Their dry and bitter truths. Yes! from the South

My people came—fall'n from their wide estate

Where Altamaha's uncongealing springs

Kept a perpetual summer in their sight—

Sweet with magnolia blooms, and dropping balm,

And scented breath of orange and of pine.

And from the East the hunted Delawares came,

Flushed from their coverts and their native streams ;

Your old allies, men ever true to you,

Who, resting after long and weary flight,

Are by your bands shot sitting on the ground.

HARRISON. Those men got ample payment for their
lands,

Full recompense, and just equivalent.

TECUMSEH. They flew from death to light upon it here!

And many a tribe comes pouring from the East,

Smitten with fire—their outraged women, maimed,

Screaming in horror o'er their murdered babes,

Whose sinless souls, slashed out by white men's swords,

Whimper in Heaven for revenge. Oh, God!—

'Tis thus the pale-face prays, then cries 'Amen':—
He clamours, and his Maker answers him,
Whilst our Great Spirit sleeps! O, no, no, no—
He does not sleep! He will avenge our wrongs!
That Christ the white men murdered, and thought dead—
Who, if He died for mankind, died for us—
He is alive, and looks from heaven on this!
Oh, we have seen your baseness and your guile;
Our eyes are opened and we know your ways!
No longer shall you hoax us with your pleas,
Or with the serpent's cunning wake distrust,
Range tribe 'gainst tribe—then shoot the remnant down,
And in the red man's empty cabin grin,
And shake with laughter o'er his desolate hearth.
No, we are one! the red men all are one
In colour as in love, in lands and fate!

HARRISON. Still, with the voice of wrath Tecumseh
speaks,

And not with reason's tongue.

TECUMSEH. O keep your reason!

It is a thief which steals away our lands.
Your reason is our deadly foe, and writes
The jeering epitaphs for our poor graves.
It is the lying maker of your books,
Wherein our people's vengeance is set down,

But not a word of crimes which led to it.
These are hushed up and hid, whilst all our deeds,
Even in self-defence, are marked as wrongs
Heaped on your blameless heads.

But to the point!

Just as our brother's Seventeen Council Fires
Unite for self-protection so do we.
How can you blame us, since your own example
Is but our model and fair precedent?
The Long-Knife's craft has kept our tribes apart,
Nourished dissensions, raised distinctions up,
Forced us to injuries which, soon as done,
Are made your vile pretexts for bloody war.
But this is past. Our nations now are one—
Ready to rise in their imbanded strength.
You promised to restore our ravaged lands
On proof that they are ours—that proof is here,
And by the tongues of truth has answered you.
Redeem your sacred pledges, and no more
(Our "leaden birds" will sing amongst your corn :
But love will shine on you, and startled peace
Will come again, and build by every hearth.
Refuse—and we shall strike you to the ground!
Pour flame and slaughter on your confines wide,
(Till the charred earth, up to the cope of Heaven,

Reeks with the smoke of smouldering villages,
And steam of awful fires half-quenched with blood.

[*Citizens converse in undertones.*]

TWANG. Did you ever hear the like! Ef I hed my shootin'-iron darn me ef I wouldn't draw a bead on thet barkin' savage. The hungry devil gits under-holts on our Guvner every time.

SLAUGH. You bet! I reckon he'd better put a lump o' bacon in his mouth to keep his bilin' sap o' passion down.

BLOAT. That's mor'n I'd do. This is jest what we git for allowin' the skulkin' devils to live. I'd vittle 'em on lead pills ef I was Guvner.

TWANG. That's so! Our civilizashun is jest this—we know what's what. Ef I hed *my* way—

HARRISON. Silence, you fools! If you provoke him here your blood be on your heads.

GERKIN. Right you air, Guvner! We'll close our dampers.

TECUMSEH. My brother's ears have heard. Where is his tongue?

HARRISON. My honest ears ache in default of reason.
Tecumseh is reputed wise, yet now
His fuming passions from his judgment fly,
Like roving steeds which gallop from the catch,
And kick the air, wasting in wantonness

More strength than in submission. His threats fall
On fearless ears. Knows he not of our force,
Which in the East swarms like mosquitoes here?
Our great Kentucky and Virginia fires?
Our mounted men and soldier-citizens?
These all have stings—let him beware of them!

TECUMSEH. Who does not know your vaunting citizens!
(Well drilled in fraud and disciplined in crime;
But in aught else—as honor, justice, truth—
A rabble, and a base disordered herd.
We know them; and our nations, knit in one,
Will challenge them, should this, our last appeal,
Fall on unheeding ears. My brother, hearken!
East of Ohio you possess our lands,
Thrice greater than your needs, but west of it
We claim them all; then, let us make its flood
A common frontier, and a sacred stream
Of which our nations both may drink in peace.

HARRISON. Absurd! The treaties of Fort Wayne must
stand.

Your village chiefs are heads of civil rule,
Whose powers you seek to centre in yourself,
(Or vest in warriors whose trade is blood.
We bought from those, and from your peaceful men—
Your wiser brothers—who had faith in us.

TECUMSEH. Poor, ruined brothers, weaned from honest lives!

HARRISON. They knew our wisdom, and preferred to sell

Their cabins, fields, and wilds of unused lands
For rich reserves and ripe annuities.

As for your nations being one like ours—

'Tis false—else would they speak one common tongue.

Nay, more! your own traditions trace you here—

Widespread in lapse of ages through the land—

From o'er the mighty ocean of the West.

✓ What better title have you than ourselves, ✓

Who came from o'er the ocean of the East,

And meet with you on free and common ground?

Be reasonable, and let wisdom's words

Displace your passion, and give judgment vent.

Think more of bounty, and talk less of rights—

Our hands are full of gifts, our hearts of love.

TECUMSEH. My brother's love is like the trader's
warmth—

O'er with the purchase. Oh, unhappy lives—

Our gifts which go for yours! Once we were strong.

✓ Once all this mighty continent was ours,

And the Great Spirit made it for our use.

He knew no boundaries, so had we peace

In the vast shelter of His handiwork,
And, happy here, we cared not whence we came.
We brought no evils thence—no treasured hate,
No greed of gold, no quarrels over God ;
And so our broils, to narrow issues joined,
Were soon composed, and touched the ground of peace.
Our very ailments, rising from the earth,
And not from any foul abuse in us,
Drew back, and let age ripen to death's hand.
Thus flowed our lives until your people came,
Till from the East our matchless misery came !
Since then our tale is crowded with your crimes,
With broken faith, with plunder of reserves—
The sacred remnants of our wide domain—
With tamp'rings, and delirious feasts of fire,
The fruit of your thrice-cursed stills of death,
Which make our good men bad, our bad men worse,
Aye ! blind them till they grope in open day,
And stumble into miserable graves.
Oh, it is piteous, for none will hear !
There is no hand to help, no heart to feel,
No tongue to plead for us in all your land.
But every hand aims death, and every heart,
Ulcered with hate, resents our presence here ;
And every tongue cries for our children's land

To expiate their crime of being born.
Oh, we have ever yielded in the past,
But we shall yield no more !. Those plains are ours !
Those forests are our birth-right and our home !
Let not the Long-Knife build one cabin there—
Or fire from it will spread to every roof,
To compass you, and light your souls to death !

HARRISON. Dreams he of closing up our empty plains ?
Our mighty forests waiting for the axe ?
Our mountain steeps engrailed with iron and gold ?
(There's no asylumed madness like to this !
Mankind shall have its wide possession here ;
And these rough assets of a virgins world
Stand for its coming, and await its hand.
The poor of every land shall come to this,
Heart-full of sorrows and shall lay them down.

LEFROY. (*Springing to his feet.*) The poor ! What care
your rich thieves for the poor ?
Those graspers hate the poor, from whom they spring,
More deeply than they hate this injured race.
Much have they taken from it—let them now
Take this prediction, with the red man's curse !
The time will come when that dread power—the Poor—
Whom, in their greed and pride of wealth, they spurn—
Will rise on them, and tear them from their seats ;

Drag all their vulgar splendours down, and pluck
Their shallow women from their lawless beds,
Yea, seize their puling and unhealthy babes,
And fling them as foul pavement to the streets.
In all the dreaming of the Universe
There is no darker vision of despairs !

1ST OFFICER. What man is that? 'Tis not an Indian.

HARRISON. Madman, you rave !—you know not what
you say.

TECUMSEH. Master of guile, this axè should speak for
him !

[Drawing his hatchet as if to hurl it at HARRISON.

2ND OFFICER. This man means mischief ! Quick !
Bring up the guard !

[GENERAL HARRISON and officers draw their swords.
*The warriors spring to their feet and cluster about
TECUMSEH, their eyes fixed intently upon HARRI-
SON, who stands unmoved. TWANG and his friends
disappear. The soldiers rush forward and take aim,
but are ordered not to fire.*

END OF SECOND ACT.

ACT III.

SCENE FIRST.—VINCENNES.—A COUNCIL CHAMBER
IN GENERAL HARRISON'S HOUSE.

Enter HARRISON and five COUNCILLORS.

HARRISON. Here are despatches from the President,
As well as letters from my trusted friends,
Whose tenor made me summon you to Council.

[Placing papers on table.]

1ST COUNCILLOR. Why break good news so gently? Is
it true
War is declared 'gainst England?

HARRISON.

Would it were!

That war is still deferred. Our news is druff,
And void of spirit, since New England turns
A fresh cheek to the slap of Britain's palm.
Great God! I am amazed at such supineness.
Our trade prohibited, our men impressed,
Our flag insulted—still her people bend,
Amidst the ticking of their wooden clocks,

Bemused o'er small inventions. Out upon 't!
Such tame submission yokes not with my spirit,
And sends my southern blood into my cheeks,
As proxy for New England's sense of shame.

2ND COUNCILLOR. We all see, save New England, what
to do ;

But she has eyes for her one interest—
A war might sink it. So the way to war
Puzzles imagining.

HARRISON. There is a way
Which lies athwart the President's command.
The reinforcements asked for from Monroe
Are here at last, but with this strict injunction,
They must not be employed save in defence,
Or in a forced attack.

[*Taking up a letter.*]

Now, here is news,
Fresh from the South, of bold Tecumseh's work,
The Creeks and Seminolés have conjoined,
Which means a general union of the tribes,
And ravage of our Southern settlements.
Tecumseh's master hand is seen in this,
And these fresh tidings tally with his threats
Before he left Vincennes.

3RD COUNCILLOR. You had a close
Encounter with him here.

HARRISON. Not over close,
 Nor dangerous—I saw he would not strike.
 His thoughts outran his threats, and looked beyond
 To wider fields and trials of our strength.

4TH COUNCILLOR. Our tree is now too bulky for his axe.

HARRISON. Don't underrate his power! But for our
 States

This man would found an empire to surpass
 Old Mexico's renown, or rich Peru.
 Allied with England, he is to be feared
 More than all other men.

1ST COUNCILLOR. You had some talk
 In private, ere he vanished to the South?

HARRISON. Mere words, yet ominous. Could we re-
 store

Our purchases, and make a treaty line,
 All might be well; but who would stand to it?

2ND COUNCILLOR. It is not to be thought of.

OTHER COUNCILLORS. No, no, no.

HARRISON. In further parley at the river's edge,
 Scenting a coming war, he clapped his hands,
 And said the English whooped his people on,
 As if his braves were hounds to spring at us;
 Compared our nation to a whelming flood,
 And called his scheme a dam to keep it back—

Then proffered the old terms ; whereat I urged
A peaceful mission to the President.
But, by apt questions, gleaning my opinion,
Ere I was ware, of such a bootless trip,
He drew his manly figure up, then smiled,
And said our President might drink his wine
In safety in his distant town, whilst we—
Over the mountains here—should fight it out :
Then entering his bark, well-manned with braves,
Bade me let matters rest till he returned
From his far mission to the distant tribes,
Waved an adieu, and, in a trice, was gone.

2ND COUNCILLOR. Your news is but an earnest of his
work.

4TH COUNCILLOR. This Chief's dispatch should be our
own example.

Let matters rest, forsooth, till he can set
Our frontier in a blaze ! Such cheap advice
Pulls with the President's, not mine.

HARRISON. Nor mine !
The sum of my advice is to attack
The Prophet ere Tecumseh can return.

5TH COUNCILLOR. But what about the breach of your
instructions ?

HARRISON. If we succeed we need not fear the breach—
In the same space we give and heal the wound.

[*Enter a Messenger, who hands letters to HARRISON.*

Thank you, Missouri and good Illinois—
Your governors are built of western clay.
Howard and Edwards both incline with me,
And urge attack upon the Prophet's force.
This is the nucleus of Tecumseh's strength—
His bold scheme's very heart. Let's cut it out.
Yes! yes! and every other part will fail.

1ST COUNCILLOR. Let us prepare to go at once!

2ND COUNCILLOR.

Agreed.

3RD COUNCILLOR. I vote for war.

5TH COUNCILLOR. But should the Prophet win?

4TH COUNCILLOR. Why then, the Prophet, not Tecumseh, kills us—

Which has the keener axe?

1ST COUNCILLOR.

Breach-clouted dogs!

Let us attack them, and, with thongs of fire,
Whip their red bodies to a deeper red.

HARRISON. This feeling bodes success, and with success

Comes war with England; for a well-won fight
Will rouse a martial spirit in the land
To emulate our deeds on higher ground.

Now hasten to your duties and prepare :
(Bronzed autumn comes, when copper-colored oaks
Drop miserly their stiff leaves to the earth ;
And ere the winter's snow doth silver them,
Our triumph must be wrought.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE SECOND.—TECUMSEH'S CABIN IN THE PRO-
PHET'S TOWN.

[*Enter IENA and MAMATEE, agitated.*]

IENA. My heart is sad, and I am faint with fear.
My friend, my more than mother, go again—
Plead with the Prophet for a single day !
Perchance within his gloomy heart will stir
Some sudden pulse of pity for a girl.

MAMATEE. Alas, my Iena, it is in vain !
He swore by Manitou this very morn,
That thou should'st wed the chief, Tarhay, to-night.

IENA. Nay try once more, Oh Mamatee, once more !
I had a dream, and heard the gusty breeze
Hurtle from out a sea of hissing pines,
Then dwindle into voices, faint and sweet,
Which cried—we come ! It was my love and yours !
They spoke to me—I know that they are near,

And waft their love to us upon the wind.

MAMATEE. Some dreams are merely fancies in our sleep :

I'll make another trial, but I feel
Your only safety is in instant flight.

IENA. Flight ! Where and how—beset by enemies ?
My fear sits like the partridge in the tree,
And cannot fly whilst these dogs bark at me.

SCENE THIRD.—AN ELEVATED PLATEAU, DOTTED
WITH HEAVY OAKS, WEST OF THE PROPHET'S TOWN.

Enter three of HARRISON'S staff Officers.

1ST OFFICER. Well, here's the end of all our northward
marching !

2ND OFFICER. A peaceful end, if we can trust those
chiefs

Who parleyed with us lately.

3RD OFFICER. Yes, for if

They mean to fight, why point us to a spot
At once so strong and pleasant for our camp ?

1ST OFFICER. Report it so unto our General !

[Exit 3RD OFFICER.]

'Tis worth our long march through the forest wild

To view these silent plains ! The Prophet's Town,
Sequestered yonder like a hermitage,
Disturbs not either's vast of solitude,
But rather gives, like graveyard visitors,
To deepest loneliness a deeper awe.

[*Re enter 3RD OFFICER.*

3RD OFFICER. I need not go, for Harrison is here.

[*Enter GENERAL HARRISON, his force following.*

1ST OFFICER. Methinks you like the place ; some
thanks we owe

Unto the Prophet's chiefs for good advice.

HARRISON. (*Locking around keenly*). These noble
oaks, the streamlet to our rear,
This rank wild grass—wood, water and soft beds !
The soldier's luxuries are here together.

1ST OFFICER. Note, too, the place o'erlooks the
springy plain

Which lies betwixt us and the Prophet's Town.

I think, sir, 'tis a very fitting place.

HARRISON. A fitting place if white men were our
foes ;

But to the red it gives a clear advantage.

Sleep like the weasel here, if you are wise !

1ST OFFICER. Why, sir, their chiefs, so menacing at
first,

Became quite friendly at the last. They fear
 A battle, and will treat on any terms.
 The Prophet's tide of strength will ebb away,
 And leave his stranded bark upon the mire.

HARRISON. 'Tis the mixed craft of old dissembling
 Nature!

If I could look upon her smallest web,
 And see in it but crossed and harmless hairs,
 Then might I trust the Prophet's knotted seine.
 I did not like the manner of those chiefs
 Who spoke so fairly. What but highest greatness
 Plucks hatred from its seat, and in its stead
 Plants friendship in an instant? This our camp
 Is badly placed; each coulee and ravine
 Is dangerous cover for approach by night;
 And all the circuit of the spongy plain
 A treacherous bog to mire our cavalry.
 They who directed us so warmly here
 Had other than our comfort in their eye.

2ND OFFICER. Fear you a night-attack, sir?

HARRISON.

Fear it! No!

I but anticipate, and shall prepare.
 'Tis sunset, and too late for better choice,
 Else were the Prophet welcome to his ground.
 Pitch tents and draw our baggage to the centre;

Girdle the camp with lynx-eyed sentinels ;
Detail strong guards of choice and wakeful men
As pickets in advance of all our lines ;
Place mounted riflemen on both our flanks ;
Our cavalry take post in front and rear,
But still within the lines of infantry,
Which, struck at any point, must hold the ground
Until relieved. Cover your rifle pans—
The thick clouds threaten rain. I look to you
To fill these simple orders to the letter.
But stay ! Let all our camp fires burn
Till, if attacked, we form—then drown them out.
The darkness falls—make disposition straight ;
Then, all who can, to sleep upon their arms.
I fear me, ere night yields to morning pale,
The warriors' yell will sound our wild reveille.

SCENE FOURTH.—TECUMSEH'S CABIN.

Enter IENA.

IENA. 'Tis night, and Mamatee is absent still !
Why should this sorrow weigh upon my heart,
And other lonely things on earth have rest ?
Oh, could I be with them ! The lily shone
All day upon the stream, and now it sleeps

D

Under the wave in peace—in cradle soft
Which sorrow soon may fashion for my grave.
Ye shadows which do creep into my thoughts—
Ye curtains of despair! what is my fault,
That ye should hide the happy earth from me?
Once I had joy of it, when tender Spring,
Mother of beauty, hid me in her leaves;
When Summer led me by the shores of song,
And forests and far-sounding cataracts
Melted my soul with music. I have heard
The rough chill harpings of dismantled woods,
When Fall had stripped them, and have felt a joy
Deeper than ear could lend unto the heart;
And when the Winter from his mountains wild
Looked down on death, and, in the frosty sky,
The very stars seemed hung with icicles,
Then came a sense of beauty calm and cold,
That weaned me from myself, yet knit me still
With kindred bonds to Nature. All is past,
And he—who won from me such love for him,
And he—my valiant uncle and my friend,
Comes not to lift the cloud that drapes my soul,
And shield me from the fiendish Prophet's power.

[Enter MAMATEE.]

Give me his answer in his very words!

MAMATEE. There is a black storm raging in his mind—
His eye darts lightning like the angry cloud
Which hangs in woven darkness o'er the earth.
Brief is his answer—you must go to him.
The Long-Knife's camp fires gleam among the oaks
Which dot yon western hill. A thousand men
Are sleeping there cajoled to fatal dreams
By promises the Prophet breaks to-night.
Hark ! 'tis the war-song.

IENA. Dares the Prophet now
Betray Tecumseh's trust, and break his faith ?

MAMATEE. He dares do anything will feed ambition.
His dancing braves are frenzied by his tongue,
Which prophesies revenge and victory.
Before the break of day he will surprise
The Long-Knife's camp, and hang our people's fate
Upon a single onset.

IENA. Should he fail ?

MAMATEE. Then all will fail ;—Tecumseh's scheme will
fail.

IENA. It shall not ! Let us go to him at once !

MAMATEE. And risk your life ?

IENA. Risk hovers everywhere
When night and man combine for darksome deeds.
I'll go to him, and argue on my knees—

Yea, yield my hand—would I could give my heart !
To stay his purpose and this act of ruin.

MAMATEE. He is not in the mood for argument.
Rash girl ! they die who would oppose him now.

IENA. Such death were sweet as life—I go ! But,
first—

Great Spirit ! I commit my soul to Thee.

[Kneels.]

SCENE FIFTH.—AN OPEN SPACE IN THE FOREST NEAR
THE PROPHET'S TOWN. A FIRE OF BILLETS BURNING.
WAR-CRIES ARE HEARD FROM THE TOWN.

Enter the PROPHET.

PROPHET. My spells do work apace ! Shout yourselves
hoarse,

Ye howling ministers by whom I climb !

For this I've wrought until my weary tongue,

Blistered with incantation, flags in speech,

And half declines its office. Every brave

Inflamed by charms and oracles, is now

A vengeful serpent, who will glide ere morn

To sting the Long-Knife's sleeping camp to death.

Why should I hesitate ? My promises !

My duty to Tecumseh! What are these
Compared with duty here? Where I perceive
A near advantage, there my duty lies;
Consideration strong which overweighs
All other reason. Here is Harrison—
Trepanned to dangerous lodgment for the night—
Each deep ravine which grooves the prairie's breast
A channel of approach; each winding creek
A screen for creeping death. Revenge is sick
To think of such advantage flung aside.
For what? To let Tecumseh's greatness grow,
Who gathers his rich harvest of renown
Out of the very fields that I have sown!
By Manitou, I will endure no more!
Nor, in the rising flood of our affairs,
Fish like an osprey for this eagle longer.

But, soft!

It is the midnight hour when comes
Tarhay to claim his bride. (*calls*) Tarhay! Tarhay!

Enter TARHAY with several braves.

TARHAY. Tarhay is here!

PROPHET. The Long-Knives die to-night.
The spirits which do minister to me

Have breathed this utterance within my ear.
 You know my sacred office cuts me off
 From the immediate leadership in fight.
 My nobler work is in the spirit-world,
 And thence come promises which make us strong.
 Near to the foe I'll keep the Magic Bowl,
 Whilst you, Tarhay, shall lead our warriors on.

TARHAY. I'll lead them ; they are wild with eagerness.
 But fill my cold and empty cabin first
 With light and heat ! You know I love your niece,
 And have the promise of her hand to-night.

PROPHET. She shall be yours !

(To the braves)

Go bring her here at once—

But, look ! Fulfilment of my promise comes
 In her own person.

Enter IENA and MAMATEE.

Welcome, my sweet niece !

You have forestalled my message by these braves, /
 And come unbidden to your wedding place.

IENA. Uncle ! you know my heart is far away—

PROPHET. But still your hand is here ! this little
 hand !

(Pulling her forward.)

IENA. Dare you enforce a weak and helpless girl,
Who thought to move you by her misery?
Stand back! I have a message for you too.
What means the war-like song, the dance of braves,
And bustle in our town?

PROPHET. It means that we
Attack the foe to-night.

IENA. And risk our all?
O that Tecumseh knew! his soul would rush
In arms to intercept you. What! break faith,
And on the hazard of a doubtful strife,
Stake his great enterprise and all our lives!
The dying curses of a ruined race
Will wither up your wicked heart for this!

PROPHET. False girl! your heart is with our foes;
Your hand I mean to turn to better use.

IENA. Oh, could it turn you from your mad intent,
How freely would I give it! Drop this scheme,
Dismiss your frenzied warriors to their beds;
And, if contented with my hand, Tarhay
Can have it here.

TARHAY. I love you, Iena!

IENA. Then must you love what I do! Love our
race!

'Tis this love nerves Tecumseh to unite

Its scattered tribes—his fruit of noble toil,
Which you would snatch unripened from his hand,
And feed to sour ambition. Touch it not—
Oh, touch it not Tarhay! and though my heart
Breaks for it, I am yours.

PROPHET. His anyway,
Or I am not the Prophet!

TARHAY. For my part
I have no leaning to this rash attempt,
Since Iena consents to be my wife.

PROPHET. Shall I be thwarted by a yearning fool!

(*Aside.*)

This soft, sleek girl, to outward seeming good,
I know to be a very fiend beneath—
Whose sly affections centre on herself,
And feed the gliding snake within her heart.

TARHAY. I cannot think her so—

MAMATEE. She is not so!

There is the snake that creeps among our race;
Whose venom'd fangs would bite into our lives,
And poison all our hopes.

PROPHET. She is the head—
The very neck of danger to me here,
Which I must break at once! (*aside*) Tarhay—attend!
I can see dreadful visions in the air;

I can dream awful dreams of life and fate ;
I can bring darkness on the heavy earth ;
I can fetch shadows from our fathers' graves,
And spectres from the sepulchres of hell.
Who dares dispute with me, disputes with death !
Dost hear, Tarhay ?

[TARHAY and braves cower before the PROPHEt.

TARHAY. I hear, and will obey.

Spare me ! Spare me !

PROPHEt. As for this foolish girl,
The hand she offers you on one condition,
I give to you upon a better one ;
And, since she has no mind to give her heart—
Which, rest assured, is in her body still—
There,—take it at my hands !

*Flings IENA violently toward TARHAY, into whose arms
she falls fainting, and is then borne away by MAMATEE.*

(To TARHAY.) Go bring the braves to view the Mystic

Torch

And belt of Sacred Beans grown from my flesh—
One touch of it makes them invulnerable—
Then creep, like stealthy panthers, on the foe !

SCENE SIXTH.—MORNING. THE FIELD OF TIPPECANOE AFTER THE BATTLE THE GROUND STREWN WITH DEAD SOLDIERS AND WARRIORS.

Enter HARRISON, officers and soldiers and BARRON.

HARRISON. A costly triumph reckoned by our slain !
Look how some lie still clenched with savages
In all-embracing death, their bloody hands
Glued in each other's hair ! Make burial straight
Of all alike in deep and common graves :
Their quarrel now is ended.

1ST OFFICER. I have heard.
The red man fears our steel—'twas not so here ;
From the first shots, which drove our pickets in,
Till daylight dawned they rushed upon our lines,
And flung themselves upon our bayonet points
In frenzied recklessness of bravery.

BARRON. They trusted in the Prophet's rites and
spells,
Which promised them immunity from death.
All night he sat on yon safe eminence,
Howling his songs of war and mystery,

Then fled, at dawn, in fear of his own braves.

[*Enter an AIDE.*

HARRISON. What tidings bring you from the Prophet's
Town?

AIDE. The wretched women with their children fly
To distant forests for concealment. In
Their village is no living thing save mice
Which scampered as we opened each cabin door.
Their pots still simmered on the vacant hearths,
Standing in dusty silence and desertion.
Naught else we saw, save that their granaries
Were crammed with needful corn.

HARRISON. Go bring it all—
Then burn their village down!

[*Exit AIDE.*

2ND OFFICER. This victory
Will shake Tecumseh's project to the base.
Were I the Prophet I should drown myself
Rather than meet him.

BARRON. We have news of him—
Our scouts report him near in heavy force.

HARRISON. 'Twill melt or draw across the British line,
And wait for war. But double the night watch,
Lest he should strike, and give an instant care
To all our wounded men: to-morrow's sun

Must light us on our backward march for home.
Thence Rumor's tongue will spread so proud a story
New England will grow envious of our glory ;
And, greedy for renown so long abhorred,
Will on old England draw the tardy sword !

SCENE SEVENTH.—THE RUINS OF THE PROPHE^T'S
TOWN.

Enter the PROPHE^T, who gloomily surveys the place.

PROPHE^T. Our people scattered, and our town in ashes!
To think these hands could work such madness here—
This envious head devise this misery !
Tecumseh, had not my ambition drawn
Such sharp and fell destruction on our race
You might have smiled at me ! for I have matched
My cunning 'gainst your wisdom, and have dragged
Myself and all into a sea of ruin.

Enter TECUMSEH.

TECUMSEH. Devil ! I have discovered you at last !
You sum of treacheries, whose wolfish fangs

Have torn our people's flesh—you shall not live !

[*The PROPHET retreats facing and followed by TECUMSEH.*

PROPHET. Nay—strike me not ! I can explain it all !
It was a woman touched the Magic Bowl,
And broke the brooding spell.

TECUMSEH. Impostor ! Slave !
Why should I spare you ?

[*Lifts his hand as if to strike.*

PROPHET. Stay, stay, touch me not !
One mother bore us in the self-same hour.

TECUMSEH. Then good and evil came to light together.
Go to the corn-dance, change your name to villain !
Away ! Your presence tempts my soul to mischief.

[*Exit the PROPHET hastily.*

Would that I were a woman, and could weep,
And slake hot rage with tears ! O spiteful fortune,
To lure me to the limit of my dreams,
Then turn and crowd the ruin of my toil
Into the narrow compass of a night.
My brother's deep disgrace—myself the scorn
Of envious harriers and thieves of fame,
Who fain would rob me of the lawful meed
Of faithful services and duties done—
Oh, I could bear it all ! But to behold
Our ruined people hunted to their graves—

To see the Long-Knife triumph in their shame—
This is the burning shaft, the poisoned wound
That rankles in my soul! But, why despair?
All is not lost—the English are our friends.
My spirit rises—manhood bear me up!
I'll haste to Malden, join my force to theirs,
And fall with double fury on our foes.
Farewell ye plains and forests, but rejoice!
Ye yet shall echo to Tecumseh's voice.

[Enter LEFROY.

LEFROY. What tidings have you gleaned of Iena?

TECUMSEH. My brother meant to wed her to Tarhay—
The chief who led his warriors to ruin;
But, in the gloom and tumult of the night,
She fled into the forest all alone.

LEFROY. Alone! In the wide forest all alone!
Angels are with her now, for she is dead.

TECUMSEH. You know her to be skilful with the bow.
'Tis certain she would strike for some great Lake—
Erie or Michigan. At the Detroit
Are people of our nation, and perchance
She fled for shelter there. I go at once
To join the British force.

[Exit TECUMSEH.

LEFROY. But yesterday
I climbed to Heaven upon the shining stairs

Of love and hope, and here am quite cast down.
My little flower amidst a weedy world,
Where art thou now? In deepest forest shade?
Or onward, where the sumach stands arrayed
In Autumn splendour, its alluring form
Fruited, yet odious with the hidden worm?
Or, farther, by some still sequestered lake,
Loon-haunted, where the sinewy panthers slake
Their noon-day thirst, and never voice is heard
Joyous of singing waters, breeze or bird,
Save their wild wailings.—(*A halloo without*) 'Tis Tecum-
seh calls!
Oh Iena! If dead, where'er thou art—
Thy saddest grave will be this ruined heart! [*Exit.*

END OF THIRD ACT.

ACT IV.

Enter CHORUS.

War is declared, unnatural and wild,
By Revolution's calculating sons !
So leave the home of mercenary minds,
And wing with me, in your uplifted thoughts,
Away to our unyielding Canada !
There to behold the Genius of the Land,
Beneath her singing pine and sugared tree,
Companioned with the lion, Loyalty.

SCENE FIRST.—A ROOM IN FORT GEORGE.

Enter GENERAL BROCK *reading a despatch from Montreal.*

BROCK. Prudent and politic Sir George Prevost !
Hull's threatened ravage of our western coast,
Hath more breviloquence than your despatch.
Storms are not stilled by reasoning with air,
Nor fires quenched by a syrup of sweet words.
So to the wars, Diplomacy, for now
Our trust is in our arms and arguments
Delivered only from the cannon's mouth !

[*Rings.*

Enter an ORDERLY.

ORDERLY. Your Exc^{ll}ency?

BROCK.

Bid Colonel Proctor come!

[Exit Orderly.]

Now might the head of gray Experience
Shake o'er the problems that surround us here.
I am no stranger to the brunt of war,
But all the odds so lean against our side
That valour's self might tremble for the issue.
{ Could England stretch its full, assisting hand
Then might I smile though velvet-footed time
Struck all his claws at once into our flesh ;
But England, noble England, fights for life,
Couching the knightly lance for liberty
'Gainst a new dragon that affrights the world.
And, now, how many noisome elements
Would plant their greed athwart this country's good !
How many demagogues bewray its cause !
How many aliens urge it to surrender !
Our present good must match their present ill,
And, on our frontiers, boldest deeds in war,
Dismay the foe, and strip the loins of faction.

Enter COLONEL PROCTOR.

Time waits not our conveniency ; I trust
Your preparations have no further needs.

PROCTOR. All is in readiness, and I can leave
For Amherstburg at once.

BROCK. Then tarry not,
For time is precious to us now as powder.
You understand my wishes and commands?

PROCTOR: I know them and shall match them with
obedience,

BROCK. Rest not within the limit of instructions
If you can better them, for they should bind
The feeble only; able men enlarge
And shape them to their needs. Much must be done
That lies in your discretion. At Detroit.
Hull vaunts his strength, and meditates invasion,
And loyalty, unarmed, defenceless, bare,
May let this boaster light upon our shores
Without one manly motion of resistance.
So whilst I open Parliament at York,
Close it again, and knit our volunteers,
Be yours the task to head invasion off.
Act boldly, but discreetly, and so draw
Our interest to the balance, that affairs
May hang in something like an even scale,
Till I can join you with a fitting force,
And batter this old Hull until he sinks.
So fare-you-well—success attend your mission!
PROCTOR. Farewell, sir! I shall do my best in this,

And put my judgment to a prudent use
In furtherance of all.

[*Exit* PROCTOR.]

BROCK. Prudent he will be—'tis a vice in him.
For in the qualities of every mind
There's one o'ergrows, and prudence in this man
Tops all the rest. 'Twill suit our present needs.
But, boldness, go with me! for, if I know
My nature well, I shall do something soon
Whose consequence will make the nation cheer,
Or hiss me to my grave.

Re-enter ORDERLY.

ORDERLY. Your Exc'llency,
Some settlers wait without.

BROCK. Whence do they come?

Enter COLONEL MACDONELL.

ORDERLY. From the raw clearings up Lake Erie, Sir.

BROCK. Go bring them here at once. (*Exit* ORDERLY.)

The very men
Who meanly shirk their service to the crown!
A breach of duty to be remedied,
For disaffection like an ulcer spreads
Until the caustic ointment of the law,
Sternly applied, eats up and stays corruption.

(Enter DEPUTATION OF YANKEE SETTLERS).

Good morrow, worphy friends ; I trust you bear
Good hopes in loyal hearts for Canada.

1ST SETTLER. That kind o' crop's a failure in our
county.

Gen'ral, we came to talk about this war
With the United States. It ain't quite fair
To call out settlers from the other side.

BROCK. From it yet on it too ! Why came you thence ?
Is land so scarce in the United States ?
Are there no empty townships, wilds or wastes
In all their borders but you must encroach
On ours ? And, being here, how dare you make
Your dwelling-places harbours of sedition
And furrow British soil with alien ploughs
To feed our enemies ? There is not scope,
Not room enough in all this wilderness
For men so base.

2ND SETTLER. Why, General, we thought
You wanted settlers here.

BROCK. Settlers indeed !
But with the soldier's courage to defend
The land of their adoption. This attack
On Canada is foul and unprovoked ;
(The hearts are vile, the hands are traitorous)

That will not help to hurl invasion back.
Beware the lariat of the law ! 'Tis thrown
With aim so true in Canada it brings
Sedition to the ground at every cast.

1ST SETTLER. Well, General, we're not your British
sort,

But if we were we know that Canada
Is naught compared with the United States.
We have no faith in her, but much in them.

BROCK. You have no faith ! Then take a creed from
me !

For I believe in Britain's Empire, and
In Canada, its true and loyal son,
Who yet shall rise to greatness, and shall stand
At England's shoulder helping her to guard
True liberty throughout a faithless world.
Here is a creed for arsenals and camps,
For hearts and heads that seek their country's good ;
So, go' at once, and meditate on it !
I have no time to parley with you now—
But think on this as well ! that traitors, spies,
And aliens who refuse to take up arms,
Forfeit their holdings, and must leave this land,
Or dangle nearer Heaven than they wish.
So to your homes, and ponder your condition.

[Exeunt Settlers ruefully.]

This foreign element will hamper us.
Its alien spirit ever longs for change,
And union with the States.

MACDONELL. O fear it not,
Nor magnify the girth of noisy men !
Their name is faction, and their numbers few.
While everywhere encompassing them stands
The silent element that doth not change ;
That points with steady finger to the Crown—
True as the needle to the viewless pole,
And stable as its star !

BROCK. I know it well,
And trust to it alone for earnestness,
Accordant counsels, loyalty and faith.
But give me these—and let the Yankees come !
With our poor handful of inhabitants,
We can defend our forest wilderness,
And spurn the bold invader from our shores.

Re-enter ORDERLY.

ORDERLY. Your boat is ready, sir !

BROCK. Man it at once—
I shall forthwith to York.

[*Exeunt.*

SCENE SECOND.—YORK THE CAPITAL OF UPPER
CANADA. THE SPACE IN FRONT OF OLD
GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Enter two U. E. LOYALISTS, separately.

1ST U. E. LOYALIST. Well met, my friend! A stirrer
like myself.

2ND U. E. LOYALIST. Yes, affairs make me so. Such
stirring times

Since Brock returned and opened Parliament!

Read you his speech?

1ST U. E. LOYALIST. That from the Throne?

2ND U. E. LOYALIST. Ay, that!

1ST U. E. LOYALIST. You need not ask, since 'tis on
every tongue,

Unstaid by repetition. I affirm

Words never showered upon more fruitful soil

To nourish valour's growth.

2ND U. E. LOYALIST. That final phrase—

Oh it struck home: a sentence to be framed

And hung in every honourable heart

For daily meditation.

*"We are engaged in an awful and eventful contest. By
unanimity and dispatch in our councils, and by vigour in*

our operations, we may teach the enemy this lesson, that a country defended by free men, enthusiastically devoted to the cause of their king and constitution, can never be conquered."

1ST U. E. LOYALIST. That reaches far ; a text to fortify
Imperial doctrine and Canadian rights.
Sedition skulks, and feels its blood a-cold,
Since first it fell upon the public ear.

2ND U. E. LOYALIST. There is a magic in this soldier's
tongue.

O language is a common instrument ;
But when a master touches it—what sounds !

1ST U. E. LOYALIST. What sounds indeed ! But Brock
can use his sword

Still better than his tongue. Our state affairs,
Conned and digested by his eager mind
Draw into form, and even now his voice
Cries, Forward ! To the Front !

2ND U. E. LOYALIST. Look—here he comes !

1ST U. E. LOYALIST. There's matter in the wind ; let's
draw a-near.

*Enter GENERAL BROCK, accompanied by MACDONELL,
NICHOL, ROBINSON and other Canadian Officers and
friends conversing.*

BROCK. 'Tis true our Province faces heavy odds ;
Of regulars but fifteen hundred men

To guard a frontier of a thousand miles ;
Of volunteers what aidance we can draw
From seventy thousand widely scattered souls.
A meagre showing 'gainst the enemy's
If numbers be the test. But odds lie not
In numbers only, but in spirit too—
Witness the might of England's little isle !
(And what made England great will keep her so—
The free soul and the valour of her sons ;
And what exalts her will sustain you now
If you contain her courage and her faith.
So not the odds so much are to be feared
As private disaffection, treachery—
Those openers of the door to enemies—
And the poor crouching spirit that gives way
Ere it is forced to yield.

ROBINSON. No fear of that !

BROCK. I trust there is not ; yet I speak of it
As what is to be feared more than the odds.
For like to forests are communities—
Fair at a distance, entering you find
The rubbish and the underbrush of states,
'Tis ever the mean soul that counts the odds,
And, where you find this spirit, pluck it up—
'Tis full of mischief.

MACDONELL. It is almost dead.
England's vast war, our weakness, and the eagle
Whetting his beak at Sandwich, with one claw
Already in our side, put thought to steep
In cold conjecture for a time, and gave
A text to alien tongues. But, since you came,
Depression turns to smiling, and men see
That dangers well-opposed may be subdued
Which shunned would overwhelm us.

BROCK. Hold to this !
For since the storm has struck us we must face it.
What is our present count of volunteers ?

NICHOL. More than you called for have assembled,
Sir—
The flower of York and Lincoln.

BROCK. Some will go
To guard our frontier at Niagara.
Which must be strengthened even at the cost
Of York itself. The rest to the Detroit,
Where, with Tecumseh's force, our regulars,
And Kent and Essex loyal volunteers,
We'll give this Hull a taste of steel so cold
His teeth will chatter at it, and his scheme
Of easy conquest vanish into air.

(Enter a COMPANY of MILITIA with their OFFICERS, unarmed. They salute, march across the stage, and make their exit.)

What men are those? Their faces are familiar.

ROBINSON. Some farmers whom you furloughed at Fort
George,

To tend their fields, which still they leave half-reaped
To meet invasion.

BROCK. I remember it!

The jarring needs of harvest-time and war,
Twixt whose necessities grave hazards lay.

ROBINSON. They only thought to save their children's
bread,

And then return to battle with light hearts. -
For, though their hard necessities o'erpoised
Their duty for the moment, these are men
Who draw their pith from loyal roots, their sires,
Dug up by revolution, and cast out
To hovel in the bitter wilderness,
And wring, with many a tussle, from the wolf
Those very fields which cry for harvesters.

BROCK. O I observed them closely at Fort George—
Red-hot for action in their summer-sleeves,

{ And others drilling in their naked feet—
 Our poor equipment (which disgraced us there)
 Too scanty to go round. See they get arms,
 An ample outfit and good quarters too.
 NICHOL. They shall be well provided for in all.

Enter COLONELS BABY and ELLIOTT.*

BROCK. Good morning both; what news from home,
 Baby?

BABY. None, none your Exc'llency—whereat we fear
 This Hull is in our rear at Amherstburg.

BROCK. Not yet; what I unsealed last night reports
 Tecumseh to have foiled the enemy
 In two encounters at the Canard bridge.
 A noble fellow as I hear, humane,
 Lofty and bold, and rooted in our cause.

BABY. I know him well; a chief of matchless force.

{ If Mackinaw should fall—that triple key
 To inland seas and teeming wilderness—
 The bravest in the west will flock to him.

BROCK. 'Twere well he had an inkling of affairs.
 My letters say he chafes at my delay,
 Not mine, but thine, thou dull and fatuous House—

* Pronounced Baw-bée.

Which, in a period that whips delay,
When men should spur themselves and flash in action,
Let'st idly leak the unpurchasable hours
From our scant measure of most precious time!

BABY. 'Tis true, Your Exc'llency, some cankered minds
Have been a daily hind'rance in our House.

{ No measure so essential, bill so fair,
But they would foul it by some cunning clause,
Wrenching the needed statute from its aim
By sly injection of their false opinion.

But this you cannot charge to us whose hearts
Are faithful to our trust; nor yet delay;
For, Exc'llency, you hurry on so fast
That other men wheeze after, out of breath,
{ And haste itself, disparaged, lags behind.

BROCK. Friends, pardon me, you stand not in reproof.
But haste, the evil of the age in peace,
Is war's auxiliary, confederate
With time himself in urgent great affairs.
So must we match it with the flying hours!
I shall prorogue this tardy Parliament,
And promptly head our forces for Detroit.
Meanwhile, I wish you, in advance of us,
To speed unto your homes. Spread everywhere
Throughout the West, broad tidings of our coming,

Which, by the counter currents of reaction,
 Will tell against our foes and for our friends.
 As for the rest, such loyal men as you
 Need not our counsel ; so, good journey both !

BABY. We shall not spare our transport or ourselves.

Enter a travel-stained MESSENGER.

ELLIOTT. Good-bye.

BABY. Tarry a moment, Elliott !

Here comes a messenger—let's have his news.

MESSENGER. It is his Excellency whom I seek.

I come, sir, with despatches from the west.

BROCK. Tidings I trust to strengthen all our hopes.

MESSENGER. News of grave interest, this not the worst.

[Handing a letter to GENERAL BROCK.]

BROCK. No, by my soul, for Mackinaw is ours !

That vaunted fort, whose gallant capture frees

Our red allies. This is important news !

What of Detroit ?

MESSENGER. Things vary little there.

Hull's soldiers scour our helpless settlements,

Our aliens join them, but the loyal mass—

Sullen, yet overawed, longs for relief.

BROCK. I hope to better this anon. You, sirs,

[To his aides.]

Come with me ; here is matter to despatch
At once to Montreal. Farewell, my friends.

[*To Baby and Elliott.*]

BABY. We feel now what will follow this, farewell !

[*Exeunt BABY, ELLIOTT and MESSENGER.*]

BROCK. Now, gentlemen, prepare against our needs,
That no neglect may check us at the start,
Or mar our swift advance. And, for our cause,
As we believe it just in sight of God,
So should it triumph in the sight of man,
Whose generous temper, at the first, assigns
Right to the weaker side, yet coldly draws
Damning conclusions from its failure. Now
Betake you to your tasks with double zeal ;
And, meanwhile, let our joyful tidings spread !

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE THIRD.—THE SAME.

Enter two OLD MEN of York, severally.

1ST OLD MAN. Good morrow, friend ! a fair and fitting
time

To take our airing, and to say farewell.

'Tis here, I think, we bid our friends God-speed,

A waftage, peradventure, to their graves.

2ND OLD MAN. 'Tis a good cause they die for, if they
fall.

By this grey pate, if I were young again,
I would no better journey. Young again!
This hubbub sets old pulses on the bound
As I were in my teens.

Enter a CITIZEN.

What news afoot?

CITIZEN. Why everyone's afoot and coming here.
York's citizens are turned to warriors ;
The learned professions go a-soldiering,
And gentle hearts beat high for Canada !
For, as you pass, on every hand you see,
Through the neglected openings of each house—
Through doorways, windows—our Canadian maids
Strained by their parting lovers to their breasts ;
And loyal matrons busy round their lords,
Buckling their arms on, or, with tearful eyes,
Kissing them to the war !

1ST OLD MAN. The volunteers
Will pass this way ?

CITIZEN. Yes, to the beach, and there

Embark for Burlington, whence they will march
 To Long Point, taking open boats again,
 (To plough the shallow Erie's treacherous flood.
 Such leaky craft as farmers market with :
 Rare bottoms, one sou-wester-driven wave
 Would heave against Lake Erie's wall of shore,
 And dash to fragments. 'Tis an awful hazard—
 A danger which in apprehension lies,
 Yet palpable unto the spirit's touch,
 As earth to finger.

1ST OLD MAN. Let us hope a calm
 (May lull this fretful and ill-tempered lake
 Whilst they ascend.

[*Military music is heard.*]

CITIZEN. Hark ! here our soldiers come.

*Enter GENERAL BROCK, with his aides, MACDONELL and
 GLEGG, NICHOL, and other Officers, followed by the
 Volunteers in companies. A concourse of citizens.*

MACDONELL. Our fellows show the mark of training,
 sir,
 And many, well-in-hand, yet full of fire,
 Are burning for distinction.

BROCK. This is good :
 Love of distinction is the fruitful soil

From which brave actions spring ; and, superposed
On love of country, these strike deeper root,
And grow to greater greatness. Cry a halt—
A word here—then away !

[*Flourish. The volunteers halt, form line,
and order arms.*

Ye men of Canada !

Subjects with me of that Imperial Power
Whose liberties are marching round the earth :
I need not urge you now to follow me,
Though what befalls will try your stubborn faith
In the fierce fire and crucible of war.
I need not urge you, who have heard the voice
Of loyalty, and answered to its call.
Who has not read the insults of the foe—
The manifesto of his purposed crimes ?
That foe, whose poison-plant, false-liberty,
Runs o'er his body politic and kills
Whilst seeming to adorn it, fronts us now !
Threats our poor Province to annihilate,
And should he find the red men by our side—
Poor injured souls, who but defend their own—
Calls black Extermination from its hell,
To stalk abroad, and stench your land with slaughter.
These are our weighty arguments for war,

Wherein armed justice will enclasp its sword,
 And sheath it in its bitter adversary ;
 Wherein we'll turn our bayonet-points to pens,
 And write in blood :—*Here lies the poor invader ;*
 Or be ourselves struck down by hailing death ;
 Made stepping-stones for foes to walk upon—
 The lifeless gangways to our country's ruin.
 For now we look not with the eye of fear ;
 We reck not if this strange mechanic frame—
 Stop in an instant in the shock of war.
 Our death may build into our country's life,
 And failing this, 'twere better still to die
 Than live the breathing spoils of infamy.
 Then forward for our cause and Canada !
 Forward for Britain's Empire—peerless arch
 Of Freedom's raising, whose majestic span
 Is axis to the world ! On, on, my friends !
 The task our country sets must we perform—
 Wring peace from war, or perish in its storm !

[*Excitement and leave-taking. The volunteers
 break into column and sing :*

O hark to the voice from the lips of the free !
~~O hark to the cry~~ ^{that is heard} from the lakes to the sea !
 Arm ! arm ! the invader is wasting our coasts,
 And tainting the air of our land with his hosts.

Arise ! then, arise ! let us rally and form,
 And rush like the torrent, and sweep like the storm,
 On the foes of our King,—of our country adored,—
 Of the flag that was lost, but in exile restored !

And whose was the flag ? and whose was the soil ?
 And whose was the exile, the suffering, the toil ?
 Our Fathers' ! who carved in the forest a name,
 And left us rich heirs of their freedom and fame.
 Oh, dear to our hearts is that flag, and the land
 Our Fathers bequeathed—'tis the work of their hand !
 And the soil they redeemed from the woods with renown
 The might of their sons will defend for the Crown !

Our hearts they are one, and our hands they are free,
 From clime unto clime, and from sea unto sea !
 And chaos will come to the States that annoy,
 But our Empire united what foe can destroy ?
 Then away ! to the front ! march ! comrades away !
 In the lists of each hour crowd the work of a day !
 We will follow our leader to fields far and nigh,
 And for Canada fight, and for Canada die !

[Exeunt with military music.]

SCENE FOURTH.—FORT DETROIT.—THE AMERICAN
 CAMP.

Enter GENERAL HULL, COLONEL CASS and other Officers.

CASS. Come, General, we must insist on reasons !
 Your order to withdraw from Canada
 Will blow to mutiny, and put to shame

That proclamation which I wrote for you,
Wherein 'tis proudly said, "*We are prepared*
To look down opposition, our strong force
But vanguard of a mightier still to come!"
And men have been attracted to our cause
Who now will curse us for this breach of faith.
Consider, sir, again!

HULL. I am not bound
To tack my reasons to my orders; this
Is my full warrant and authority—

[*Pointing to his Instructions.*]

Yet, I have ample grounds for what I do.

CASS. What are they, then?

HULL. First, that this proclamation
Meets not with due response, wins to our side
The thief and refugee, not honest men.
These plainly rally round their government.

1ST OFFICER. Why, yes; there's something lacking
in this people,
If we must conquer them to set them free.

HULL. Ay, and our large force must be larger still,
If we would change these Provinces to States.
Then, Colonel Proctor's intercepted letter—
Bidding the captor of Fort Mackinaw
Send but five thousand warriors from the West,

Which, be it artifice or not, yet points
 To great and serious danger. Add to this
 Brock's rumoured coming with his Volunteers,
 All burning to avenge their fathers' wrongs,
 And our great foe, Tecumseh, fired o'er his ;
 These are the reasons ; grave enough, I think,
 Which urge me to withdraw from Canada,
 And wait for further force ; so, go at once,
 And help our soldiers to recross the river.

CASS. But I see——

HULL No "but" ! You have my orders.

CASS. No solid reason here, naught but a group
 Of flimsy apprehensions——

HULL Go at once !

(Who kicks at judgment, lacks it.

CASS. I——

HULL No more !

I want not wrangling but obedience here.

[*Exeunt CASS and other officers incensed.*]

Would I had ne'er accepted this command !
 Old men are out of favour with the time,
 And youthful folly scoffs at hoary age.
 There's not a man who executes my orders
 With a becoming grace ; not one but sulks,
 And puffs his disapproval with a frown.

And what am I? A man whom Washington
Nodded approval of, and wrote it too!
Yet here, in judgment and discretion both,
Ripe to the dropping, scorned and ridiculed.
Oh, Jefferson, what mischief have you wrought—
Confounding Nature's order, setting fools
To prank themselves, and sit in wisdom's seat
By right divine, out-Heroding a King's!
But I shall keep straight on—pursue my course,
Responsible and with authority,
(Though boasters gird at me, and braggarts frown.

[*Exit.*

SCENE FIFTH.—SANDWICH, ON THE DETROIT.—A
ROOM IN THE BABY MANSION.

Enter GENERAL BROCK, COLONELS PROCTOR, GLEGG,
BABY, MACDONELL, NICHOL, ELLIOTT *and other*
Officers.

BABY. Welcome! thrice welcome!
Brave Brock, to Sandwich and this loyal roof!
Thank God, your oars, those weary levers bent
In many a wave, have been unshipped at last;

And, now, methinks those lads who stemmed the flood
Would boldly face the fire.

BROCK. I never led
Men of more cheerful and courageous heart,
But for whose pluck, foul weather and short seas,
'Twere truth to say, had made an end of us.
Another trial will, I think, approve
The manly strain this Canada hath bred.

PROCTOR. 'Tis pity that must be denied them now,
Since all our enemies have left our shores.

BROCK. No, by my soul, it shall not be denied !
Our foe's withdrawal hath a magnet's power
And pulls my spirit clean into his fort.
But I have asked you to confer on this.
What keeps Tecumseh ?

ELLIOTT. 'Tis his friend, Lefroy,
Who now rejoins him, after bootless quest
Of Iena, Tecumseh's niece.

BROCK. Lefroy !
I had a gentle playmate of that name
In Guernsey, long ago.

BABY. It may be he.
I know him, and, discoursing our affairs,
Have heard him speak of you, but in a strain
Peculiar to the past.

BROCK. He had in youth
 All goods belonging to the human heart,
 But fell away to Revolution's side—
 Impulsive ever, and o'er prompt to see,
 In kings but tyrants, and in laws but chains.
 I have not seen or heard of him for years.

BABY. The very man!

BROCK. 'Tis strange to find him here!

ELLIOTT. He calls the red men freedom's last survival;
 Says truth is only found in Nature's growth—

Her first intention, ere false knowledge rose
 To frame distinctions, and exhaust the world.

BROCK. Few find like him the substance of their
 dreams.

But, Elliott, let us seek Tecumseh now.
 Stay, friends, till we return.

[*Exeunt BROCK and ELLIOTT.*]

GLEGG How odd to find

An old friend in this fashion!

PROCTOR. Humph! a fool

Who dotes on forest tramps and savages.
 Why, at the best, they are the worst of men;
 And this Tecumseh has so strained my temper,
 So over-stept my wishes, thrid my orders,

That I would sooner ask the devil's aid
Than such as his.

NICHOL. Why, Brock is charmed with him !
And, as you saw, at Amherstburg he put
Most stress upon opinion when he spoke.

MACDONELL. Already they've determined on assault.

PROCTOR. Then most unwisely so ! There are no
bounds

To this chief's rashness, and our General seems
Swayed by it too, or rashness hath a twin.

NICHOL. Well, rashness is the wind of enterprise,
And blows its banners out. But here they come
Who dig beneath their rashness for their reasons.

*Re-enter GENERAL BROCK and COLONEL ELLIOTT, accom-
panied by TECUMSEH, conversing.*

TECUMSEH. We have been much abused ! and have
abused

Our fell destroyers too—making our wrongs
The gauge of our revenge. And, still forced back
From the first justice and the native right,
Ever revenge hath sway. This we would void,
And, by a common boundary, prevent.
So, granting that a portion of our own

Is still our own, then let that portion be
Confirmed by sacred treaty to our tribes.
This is my sum of asking—you have ears!

BROCK. Nay, then, Tecumseh, speak of it no more!
My promise is a pledge, and from a man
(Who never turned his back on friend or foe.
The timely service you have done our cause,
Rating not what's to come, would warrant it.
So, if I live, possess your soul of this—
No treaty for a peace, if we prevail,
Will bear a seal that doth not guard your rights.
Here, take my sash, and wear it for my sake—
Tecumseh can esteem a soldier's gift.

TECUMSEH. Thanks, thanks, my brother, I have faith
in you;
My life is at your service!

BROCK. Gentlemen,
Have you considered my proposal well
Touching the capture of Detroit by storm?
What say you Colonel Proctor?

PROCTOR. I object!
'Tis true, the enemy has left our shores,
But what a sorry argument is this!
For his withdrawal, which some sanguine men,
Jumping all other motives, charge to fear,

Prudence, more deeply searching, lays to craft.
Why should a foe, who far outnumbers us,
Retreat o'er this great river, save to lure
Our poor force after him? And, having crossed—
Our weakness seen, and all retreat cut off—
What would ensue but absolute surrender,
Or sheer destruction? 'Tis too hazardous!
Discretion balks at such a mad design.

BROCK. What say the rest?

1ST OFFICER. I fear 'tis indiscreet.

2ND OFFICER. 'Twould be imprudent with our scanty
force.

BROCK. What say you, Nichol, to my foolish scheme?

NICHOL. I think it feasible and prudent too.
Hull's letters, captured by Tecumseh, prove
His soldiers mutinous, himself despondent.
And dearly Rumor loves the wilderness,
Which gives a thousand echoes to a tongue
That ever swells and magnifies our strength.
And in this flux we take him, on the hinge
Of two uncertainties—his force and ours.
So, weighed, objections fall; and our attempt,
Losing its grain of rashness, takes its rise
In clearest judgment, whose effect will nerve
All Canada to perish, ere she yield.

BROCK. My very thoughts ! What says Tecumseh now ?

TECUMSEH. I say attack the fort ! This very night
I'll cross my braves, if you decide on this.

BROCK. Then say no more ! Glegg, take a flag of truce,
And bear to Hull this summons to surrender.
Tell him Tecumseh and his force are here—
A host of warriors brooding on their wrongs,
Who, should resistance flush them to revenge,
Would burst from my control like wind-borne fire,
And match on earth the miseries of hell.
But, should he yield, his safety is assured.
Tell him Tecumseh's word is pledged to this,
Who, though his temperate will in peace is law,
Yet casts a loose rein to enforced rage.
Add what your fancy dictates ; but the stress
Place most on what I speak of—this he fears,
And these same fears, well wrought upon by you,
May prove good workers for us yet.

GLEGG. I go,
And shall acquit myself as best I can.

[Exit GLEGG.]

BROCK. Tecumseh, wonder not at such a message !
The guilty conscience of your foes is judge
Of their deserts, and hence 'twill be believed.
The answer may be ' nay,' so to our work—

Which perfected, we shall confer again,
Then cross at break of morn.

[*Exeunt all but TECUMSEH.*]

TECUMSEH. This is a man !

And our great father, waking from his sleep,
Has sent him to our aid. Master of Life,
Endue my warriors with double strength !
May the wedged helve be faithful to the axe,
The arrow fail not, and the flint be firm !
That our great vengeance, like the whirlwind fell,
May cleave through thickets of our enemies
A broad path to our ravaged lands again.

[*Exit.*]

SCENE SIXTH.—MOONLIGHT. THE BANK OF THE
DETROIT RIVER, NEAR THE BABY MANSION.

Enter CAPTAIN ROBINSON.

ROBINSON. I thought to find my brother here—poor
boy,
The day's hard labor woos him to his rest.
How sweet the night ! how beautiful the place !
Who would not love thee, good old Sandwich town !
Abode of silence and sweet summer dreams—

Let speculation pass, nor progress touch
Thy silvan homes with hard, unhallowed hand !
The light wind whispers, and the air is rich
With vapours which exhale into the night ;
And, round me here, this village in the leaves
Darkling doth slumber. How those giant pears
Loom with uplifted and high-ancient heads,
Like forest trees ! A hundred years ago
They, like their owner, had their roots in France—
In fruitful Normandy—but here refuse
Unlike, to multiply, as if their spirits
Grieved in their alien home. The village sleeps,
So should I seek that hospitable roof
Of thine, thou good old loyalist, Baby !
Thy mansion is a shrine, whereto shall come
On pilgrimages, in the distant days,
The strong and generous youths of Canada,
And, musing there in rich imaginings,
Restore the balance and the beaver-pack
To the wide hall ; see forms of savagery,
Vanished for ages, and the stately shades
Of great Tecumseh and high-hearted Brock.
So shall they profit, drinking of the past,
And, drinking loyally, enlarge the faith

Which love of country breeds in noble minds.
But now to sleep—good night unto the world!

[*Exit.*]

SCENE SEVENTH.—THE SAME.

Enter IENA, in distress.

IENA. Oh, have I eaten of the spirit-plant!
My head swims, and my senses are confused,
And all grows dark around me. Where am I?
Alas! I know naught save of wanderings,
And this poor bosom's weight. What pang is here,
Which all my pressing cannot ease away?
Poor heart! poor heart! Oh, I have travelled far,
And in the forest's brooding place, or where
Night-shrouded surges beat on lonely shores,
Have sickened with my deep, dread, formless fears;
But, never have I felt what now I feel!
Great Spirit, hear me! help me!—this is death!
[*Stagger and swoons behind some shrubbery.*]

Enter GENERAL BROCK and LEFROY.

BROCK. You may be right, Lefroy! but, for my part,
I stand by old tradition and the past.

My father's God is wise enough for me,
And wise enough this grey world's wisest men.

LEFROY. I tell you, Brock,
The world is wiser than its wisest men,
And shall outlive the wisdom of its gods
Made after man's own liking. The crippled throne
No longer shelters the uneasy king,
And outworn sceptres and imperial crowns
Now grow fantastic as an idiot's dream.
These perish with the kingly pastime, war,
And war's blind tool, the monster, Ignorance !
Both hateful in themselves, but this the worst.
One tyrant will remain—one impious fiend,
Whose name is Gold—our earliest, latest foe !
Him must the earth destroy, ere man can rise,
Rightly self-made, to his high destiny,
Purged of his grossest faults ; humane and kind ;
Co-equal with his fellows, and as free.

BROCK. Lefroy, such thoughts, let loose, would wreck
the world.

The kingly function is the soul of state,
The crown the emblem of authority,
And loyalty the symbol of all faith.
Omitting these, man's government decays—
His family falls into revolt and ruin.

But let us drop this bootless argument,
 And tell me more of those unrivalled wastes
 You and Tecumseh visited.

Lipkull, 1837. LEFROY.

We left

The silent forest, and, day after day,
 Great prairies swept beyond our aching sight
 Into the measureless West ; uncharted realms,
 Voiceless and calm, save when tempestuous wind
 Rolled the rank herbage into billows vast,
 And rushing tides, which never found a shore.
 And tender clouds, and veils of morning mist
 Cast flying shadows, chased by flying light,
 Into interminable wildernesses,
 Flushed with fresh blooms, deep perfumed by the rose,
 And murmurous with flower-fed bird and bee.
 The deep-grooved bison-paths like furrows lay,
 Turned by the cloven hoofs of thundering herds
 Primeval, and still travelled as of yore.
 And gloomy valleys opened at our feet—
 Shagged with dusk cypresses and hoary pine ;
 And sunless gorges, rummaged by the wolf,
 Which through long reaches of the prairie wound,
 Then melted slowly into upland vales,
 Lingering, far-stretched amongst the spreading hills.

BROCK. What charming solitudes ! And life was there !

LEFROY. Yes, life was there ! inexplicable life,
Still wasted by inexorable death.
There had the stately stag his battle-field—
Dying for mastery among his hinds.
There vainly sprung the affrighted antelope,
Beset by glittering eyes and hurrying feet.
The dancing grouse at their insensate sport,
Heard not the stealthy footstep of the fox ;
The gopher on his little earthwork stood,
With folded arms, unconscious of the fate
That wheeled in narrowing circles overhead,
And the poor mouse, on heedless nibbling bent,
Marked not the silent coiling of the snake.
At length we heard a deep and solemn sound—
Erupted moanings of the troubled earth
Trembling beneath innumerable feet.
A growing uproar blending in our ears,
With noise tumultuous as ocean's surge,
Of bellowings, fierce breath and battle shock,
And ardor of unconquerable herds.
A multitude whose trampling shook the plains,
With discord of harsh sound and rumblings deep,
As if the swift revolving earth had struck,
And from some adamantine peak recoiled—
Jarring. At length we topped a high-browed hill—

The last and loftiest of a file of such—
 And, lo ! before us lay the tameless stock,
 Slow-wending to the northward like a cloud !
 A multitude in motion, dark and dense—
 Far as the eye could reach, and farther still,
 In countless myriads stretched for many a league.

BROCK. You fire me with the picture ! What a scene !

LEFROY. Nation on nation was invillaged there,
 Skirting the flanks of that imbanded host ;
 With chieftains of strange speech and port of war,
 Who, battle-armed, in weather-brawny bulk,
 Roamed fierce and free in huge and wild content.
 These gave Tecumseh greetings fair and kind,
 Knowing the purpose havened in his soul.
 And he, too, joined the chase as few men dare ;
 For I have seen him, leaping from his horse,
 Mount a careering bull in foaming flight,
 Urge it to fury o'er its burden strange,
 Yet cling tenacious, with a grip of steel,
 Then, by a knife-plunge, fetch it to its knees
 In mid-career, and pangs of speedy death.

BROCK. You rave, Lefroy ! or saw this in a dream.

LEFROY. No, no ; 'tis true—I saw him do it, Brock !
 Then would he seek the old, and with his spoils
 Restore them to the bounty of their youth,

Cheering the crippled lodge with plenteous feasts,
And warmth of glossy robes, as soft as down,
'Till withered cheeks ran o'er with feeble smiles,
And tongues, long silent, babbled of their prime.

BROCK. This warrior's fabric is of perfect parts!
A worthy champion of his race—he heaps
Such giant obligations on our heads
As will outweigh repayment. It is late,
And rest must preface war's hot work to-morrow,
Else would I talk till morn. How still the night!
Here Peace has let her silvery tresses down,
And falls asleep beside the lapping wave.
Wilt go with me?

LEFROY. Nay, I shall stay awhile.

BROCK. You know my quarters and the countersign—
Good-night, Lefroy!

LEFROY. Good-night, good-night, good friend!

[Exit BROCK.]

Give me the open sleep, whose bed is earth,
With airy ceiling pinned by golden stars,
Or vaultage more confined, plastered with clouds!
Your log-roofed barrack-sleep, 'twixt drum and drum,
Suits men who dream of death, and not of love.
Love cannot die, nor its exhausted life,
Exhaling like a breath into the air,

Blend with the universe again. It lives,
 Knit to its soul forever. Iena!
 Dead in the forest wild—earth cannot claim
 Aught but her own from thee. Sleep on! sleep on!

IENA. (*Reviving*). What place is this?

LEFROY. Who's there? What voice is that!

IENA. Where am I now?

LEFROY. I'll follow up that sound!

A desperate hope now ventures in my heart!

IENA. Help me, kind Spirit!

LEFROY. I could pick that voice

From out a choir of angels! Iena!

[*Finds her behind the shrubbery.*]

'Tis she! 'tis she! Speak to me, Iena—

No earthly power can mar your life again,

For I am here to shield it with my own.

IENA. Lefroy!

LEFROY. Yes, he!

IENA. My friends! found, found at last!

LEFROY. Found, found my love! I swear it on your
 lips,

And seal love's contract there! Again—again—

Ah me! all earthly pleasure is a toil

Compared with one long look upon your face.

IENA. O, take me to my friends ! A faintness came
Upon me, and no farther could I go.

LEFROY. What spirit led you here ?

IENA. My little bark
Is yonder by the shore—but take me hence !
For I am worn and weak with wandering.

LEFROY. Come with me then.

*Enter the PROPHET, who stalks gloomily across the stage—
scowling at IENA and LEFROY as he passes out.*

IENA. The Prophet ! I am lost !

LEFROY. This monster here ! But he is powerless
now.

Fear him not, Iena ! Tecumseh's wrath
Burns 'gainst him still—he dare not do thee hurt.

IENA. Must I endure for ever this fiend's hate ?
He stabbed me with his eye—

[Swoons away.]

LEFROY. O, horrible !
Let us but meet again, and I shall send
His curst soul out of this accursed world !

[Exit LEFROY, carrying IENA.]

SCENE EIGHTH. — THE HIGHWAY THROUGH THE FOREST LEADING TO FORT DETROIT—THE FORT IN THE DISTANCE; CANNON AND GUNNERS AT THE GATE.

Enter TECUMSEH, STAYETA, and other Chiefs and Warriors.

TECUMSEH. There is the Long-Knife's fort, within whose walls

We lose our lives, or find our lands to-day.
Fight for that little space—'tis wide domain !
That small enclosure shuts us from our homes.
There are the victors in the Prophet's strife—
Within that fort they lie—those bloody men
Who burnt your town, to light their triumph up,
And drove your women to the withered woods
To shudder through the cold slow-creeping night,
And help their infants to out-howl the wolf.
Oh, the base Long-Knife grows to head, not heart—
A pitiless and murdering minister
To his desires ! But let us now be strong,
And, if we conquer, merciful as strong !
Swoop like the eagles on their prey, but turn
In victory your taste to that of doves ;
For ever it has been reproach to us

That we have stained our deeds with cruelty,
 And dyed our axes in our captives' blood.
 So, here, retort not on a vanquished foe,
 But teach him lessons in humanity.
 Now let the big heart, swelling in each breast,
 Strain every rib for lodgment ! Warriors !
 Bend to your sacred task, and follow me.

STAYETA. Lead on ! We follow you !

KICKAPOO CHIEF. Advance ye braves !

TECUMSEH. Stay ! make a circuit in the open woods—
 Cross, and recross, and double on the path—
 So shall the Long-Knives overcount our strength.
 Do this, Stayeta, whilst I meet my friend—
 My brave white brother, and confer with him.

*Enter GENERAL BROCK, PROCTOR, NICHOL, MACDONELL
 and other Officers and Forces, on the highway. TE-
 CUMSEH goes down to meet them.*

BROCK. Now by God's providence we face Detroit,
 Either to sleep within its walls to-night,
 Or in deep beds dug by exulting foes.
 Go, Nichol, make a swift reconnoissance—
 We'll follow on.

NICHOL. I shall, but, ere I go

I do entreat you, General, take the rear ;
 Those guns are shrewdly placed without the gate—
 One raking fire might rob us of your life,
 And, this lost, all is lost.

BROCK. Well meant, my friend !
 But I am here to lead, not follow, men
 Whose confidence has come with me thus far !
 Go, Nichol, to your task !

[Exit NICHOL. TECUMSEH advances.

Tecumseh, hail !

Brave chieftain, you have made your promise good.

TECUMSEH. My brother stands to his ! and I but wait
 His orders to advance—my warriors
 Are ripe for the assault.

BROCK. Deploy them, then,
 Upon our landward flank, and skirt the woods,
 Whilst we advance in column to attack.

[TECUMSEH rejoins his warriors.

Signal our batteries on the farther shore
 To play upon the Fort ! Be steady friends—
 Be steady ! Now upon your country turn
 Your multiplying thoughts, and strike for her !
 Strike for your distant and inviolate homes,
 Perfumed with holy prayer at this hour !
 Strike ! with your fathers' virtue in your veins

You must prevail—on, on, to the attack!

[BROCK and forces advance towards the Fort. A heavy cannonading from the British batteries.

Re-enter NICHOL hastily.

NICHOL. Stay, General! I saw a flag of truce
Cross from the Fort to the Canadian shore.

BROCK. Halt! There's another from yon bastion flung;
And, see! another waves adown the road—
Borne by an officer—what think you, Nichol?

NICHOL. Your threats are conquerors! The Fort is
ours!

GLEGG. Yes, look! the gunners have been all with-
drawn

Who manned the cannon at yon western gate.

PROCTOR. So many men to yield without a blow!
Why, this is wonderful! It cannot be!

BROCK. Say, rather, should not be, and yet it is!
'Tis plainly written in this captain's face.

Officer with flag of truce approaches.

OFFICER. This letter from our General contains
Proposals to capitulate—pray send
An officer to ratify the terms.

[GENERAL BROCK reads letter.

BROCK. You have a wise and politic commander !

OFFICER. Our General knowing your superior force—

NICHOL. (*Aside.*) O this is good ! 'tis barely half his
own !

OFFICER. And, noting your demand of yesterday
With clearer judgment, doth accede to it,
To bar effusion of much precious blood
By reasonable treaty of surrender.

BROCK. Why, this is excellent, and rare discretion !

OFFICER. He fears your Indians could not be re-
strained.

Our women's prayers—red visions of the knife—
We know not what—have melted his stout heart,
And brought him to this pass.

BROCK. Ay, ay, how good !

Great judgment and humanity combined.
Glegg and Macdonell go at once and sign
Those happy stipulations which restore
Fair Michigan to empire and the crown.

[*Exeunt* GLEGG, MACDONELL and Officer with Flag.

We shall await our officers' return—
But now prepare to occupy the Fort !
With colours flying we shall enter it,
And martial music, as befits the scene.
No Sunday ever saw a finer sight—

Three cheers for Canada and England's right !

[Shouts and congratulations from the soldiery.]

SCENE NINTH.—FORT DETROIT.—A TUMULT OF
AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND CITIZENS.

*Enter GENERAL HULL and one of his officers, accompanied
by BROCK'S Aides, GLEGG and MACDONELL.*

HULL. Here is the paper ! Tell your General
Divine humanity, which hath in me
A deeper root than fear of him, thus yields :
A sheer compunction lest the savage axe
Should drink too deeply in confused revenge.

GLEGG. Depend upon it, we shall tell him so,
And shall away at once.

[Exeunt GLEGG and MACDONELL.]

HULL. 'Tis well I lived
To stop this bloody work ! Deferment played
Into the hands of death.

OFFICER. Oh, sir, I think
That what begins in honor so should end—
First deeds, not stained, but dusted by the last ;
For, thus the long day of a useful life,
Seems burnished by its close.

TECUMSEH.

ACT IV.

HULL. My friend, had all
Been trusty as the men of your command !
But—I am great in silence and shall speak
No more of this ! What's done is for the best.

[Retiring.]

OFFICER. A bleached and doting relic of stale time !
His best is bad for us.

[A squad of Volunteer Militia insultingly surround
the General, hooting and groaning.]

1ST VOLUNTEER. Hull ! hold the fort !

2ND VOLUNTEER. Resist ! We'll back you up !

HULL. Insolent ruffians !
Some men are here in whose sincerity
And courage I have perfect faith—but you !—
Untaught, unmannerly and mutinous—
Your muddy hearts would squirm within your ribs
If I but gave the order to resist !
You would command me ! You who never learned
The simple first note of obedience !
Stand off, nor let me ! I regard you not.
Fine Volunteers are you, who mutinied
O'er such privations as true soldiers laugh at !
Fine Volunteers ! whom we were forced to coax,
And almost drag upon the forest march.
Oh, if I had a thousand more of men,

A thousand less of things—which is your name—
I would defend this Fort, and keep it too.
Stand off, and let me pass!

[*The GENERAL walks off.*]

1ST VOLUNTEER.

The General

Talks well, boys, when he's mad!

Enter an OFFICER.

OFFICER.

Fall in! Fall in!

Here come the British troops—the Fort's surrendered!

*Enter GENERAL BROCK and Forces, with Colors flying
and military music. The American soldiers sullenly
ground arms, and march out of the Fort.*

BROCK. This is a happy end! You, Nichol, make—
With Proctor—rough lists of our spoils of war,
Then join with us in grateful prayers to Heaven.

[*Exeunt NICHOL and PROCTOR.*]

*Enter TECUMSEH and STAYETA (the ~~one~~ wearing BROCK'S
sash) with other Chiefs and Warriors, and LEFROY.*

TECUMSEH. My valiant brother is the rising sun—
Our foes the night, which disappears before him!
Our people thank him, and their hearts are his!

BROCK. Why, here is misdirection ! For their thanks—
 They fall to you, Tecumseh, more than me !
 And, lest what lies in justice should too long
 Stand in expectancy—'till thanks seem cold—
 Take mine, Tecumseh ! for your services
 Have won, with us, the honours of the day,
 And you shall share its spoils.

TECUMSEH. Freedom I prize,
 And my poor people's welfare, more than spoils !
 No longer will they wander in the dark ;
 The path is open, and the sky is clear.
 We, thank you for it all !

BROCK. Nay, then, our thanks
 We'll interchange—take mine, as I take thine !
 But how is this ? Is friendship's gift unused ?
 Where is my brother's sash ?—

TECUMSEH. That gift, I deemed
 Conferred on me as on a warrior,
 And, when I saw a worthier than myself,
 I could not wear it. 'Tis Stayeta's now—
 He keeps it 'till he finds a worthier still.

BROCK. Noble Tecumseh ! thou art still the best !
 Men envy their own merit in another—
 Grudging e'en what's superfluous to themselves—
 { But thou—great valour's integer, wouldst share

Its very recompense with all the world !
Here are my pistols—take them from a friend—
Nay—take them ! Would I had a richer gift
To mark my heart's approval of your worth !

LEFROY. This is a noble friendship.

BROCK.

Ah, Lefroy !

What think you now of war ?

LEFROY.

If this war shield

Nature's most intimate and injured men,
I shall revoke my words and call it blest.

Re-enter GENERAL HULL.

HULL. You asked not for my sword—but here it is !
I wielded it in honour in my youth,
And now to yield it, tarnished, in old age,
Vexes me to the soul.

BROCK.

Then keep it, sir !

HULL. Trenton and Saratoga speak for me ! (*Aside.*)

I little thought that I should have to knead
In my gray years, this lumpy world again.
But, when my locks were brown, my heart aflame
For liberty, believe me, sir, this sword
Did much to baffle your imperious King !

BROCK. That stands not in dispute, so keep the sword !
'Tis strange that those who fought for liberty,

Should seek to wrench it from their fellow men.
Impute not guilty war to Kings alone,
Since 'tis the pastime of Republics, too!
Your's has its dreams of glory, conquest, spoil—
Else should we not be here. But, General,
Wilt dine with us? We shall discuss this matter!

HULL. Nay, let me to my house; I cannot eat.

BROCK. Sir, as you will—but, prithee, be prepared!
I sail in six days for Niagara,
And you for Montreal.

HULL.

Till then, adieu!

[*Exit* GENERAL HULL.]

TECUMSEH. Why should my brother leave Detroit so
soon?

BROCK. Our foes are massing at Niagara,
And I must meet them; Colonel Proctor stays
In this command.

TECUMSEH. I know him very well.

My brother's friend says "go!" but you say "come!"

BROCK. (*Aside*). How am I straitened for good officers!

(*To* TECUMSEH). Friend Proctor's prudence may be useful here.

TECUMSEH. I do misgive me o'er my brother's friend.

Re-enter NICHOL *and* PROCTOR.

NICHOL. Large stores, munitions, public properties;
A rare account of needed stands of arms ;
A brig of war, and military chest—
These are the spoils of bloodless victory.

[*Handing* GENERAL BROCK *a list.*

BROCK. Naught is much prized that is not won with
blood !

GLEGG. And yet I would old England's victories
Were all as bloodless, ample and complete.

MACDONELL. O, 'tis a victory fitly gained this day ;
Great turning point of our Canadian fortunes !
This day forever should red-lettered stand
In all the calendars of our loved land !

[*Exeunt.*

END OF FOURTH ACT

ACT V.

Enter CHORUS.

CHORUS.

O Canada !.

(Bright youth among the gray-beards of the earth,
Dark days have come upon thee ! Brock is slain—
That spirit glorious who fired thy soul,
And led thee to renown and victory.
Alas ! the rare advantages he won,
By weak successors (equals in command,
But, oh, of what inferior mould, in greatness !)
Have been let slip unto the winds, thy hopes
By an untimely armistice destroyed.
Those fleets he would have captured from the foe,
But for a hateful truce on him enjoined,
Were, in a fataler still, equipped, and loosed
To lord it o'er thee on the lakes. One bore
Destruction to thy upper Capital—
The other meets thy poorly-furnished hulls
On Erie's bosom, and with hosts of men
And weight of armament, doth bear them down.

Oh, hapless victory, which paves the way
To sad remaining scenes—a coward's part,
And the last pulse-beat of a hero's heart.

[*Exit.*

SCENE FIRST.—THE INDIAN COUNCIL HOUSE,
AMHERSTBURG.

Enter BABY and ELLIOTT.

BABY. Now, Elliott, what, think you, keeps our fleet?
We heard the crash of battle yesterday,
And still no tidings come.

ELLIOTT. I fear the worst.

BABY. I fear it, too! Worse still to think this worst
Owes to sheer folly—to an armistice
Astutely urged, and too politely granted.
Some chance politenesses obstruct themselves,
Like meeting men who shuffle in the street,
Each striving to give way; but this, of Sheaffe's,
Was of the stately kind! He stood aside;
Bowed, hat in hand, and let the foe pass by
To build his navy up.

ELLIOTT. Well, we have here
A fool who beats Sheaffe's folly at the game,
But for whose slackness we might still record
Some gains on land, 'gainst losses on the lake.

BABY. You speak of Proctor ; hum ! a prudent man,
Who loves his life, and will maintain his love.
'Tis a safe temper.

ELLIOTT. Ay, for peace, not war.
But what a damper to our volunteers !
They left their customable, proper toil
To fight, not for a wage, but for their freedom—
A thing to be achieved by instant ways,
Though they run blood. Thus—if they won and lived—
The sooner to their homes ; and, if they died—
Fair end : their lives went for their country's good.
But how, by bootless and lame leadership,
Has Proctor soured the temper of our men ;
Cooling them to contempt, 'till, in a pique,
He straight disarms, then sends them to their homes !

BABY. Unheard of folly ! All this is a text
From which I often preach unto myself.

ELLIOTT. Would that by preaching we could mend the
matter ;
Even Tecumseh he insults, whose cause
Lies close to ours ; and, saving him and us,
(Whose aid he would dispense with if he dared,)
What force is left him, but his regulars,
Whose sickly frames and broken confidence
Would scarcely face the effigies of foes !

BABY. True! true! it breeds fear but to think of it.

ELLIOTT. Then hear him prate about the charge he bears
Upon his individual shoulders—his!
Oh, it is galling! while he boasts withal
What he would do were things fortuitous,
And in a fairer plight; and this fudged stuff
Goes down with some. But, not to spin it out,
We know that, at Sandusky, Harrison
(Who is as good a substitute for Hull
As ours a poor one for immortal Brock)
Waits transport to invade us in large force.
So—lest our General means to beat retreat,
Or ruinously yield—'tis time to stir.

BABY. What can we do? We are not in command.

ELLIOTT. Force him who is, to face our enemies—
First calling back our volunteers.

BABY. Force him,
Who would not face yourself, to face five thousand!
Why, Elliott, we might as well expect
Light from a cave, as courage from this man.

Enter MCKEE.

What news, McKee?

MCKEE. It could not well be worse.
Our fleet is captured, and the General

Has issued orders to retreat.

BABY.

Ay, ay ;

We had already lost our fleet in thought,
Which oftimes pre-digests calamities.

But this retreat—how looks Tecumseh at it ?

MCKEE. I never saw him in so strange a temper—

Calm on the surface, but convulsed beneath,
Just poising on the edge of whirling rage.

He now harangues his chiefs and warriors,
And has demanded conference with Proctor,
Wherein I look for deep outbursts of wrath.

For Proctor, fearing him, pretends our fleet
Is absent for repairs—a foolish lie,

Which yet will deepen what it but prorogues.

BABY. We must compose this threatened broil, McKee;
Dissension now would ruin everything.

MCKEE. Tecumseh thinks there's ruin in retreat.

Proctor can't thumb his temper to the point,
Nor rove him through his plans.

BABY

Well, certainly,

Had we but power and time enough to mass
Our people's strength 'twould be the nobler part
To risk a battle here. But, pshaw! this counts
In mere conjecture as to what might be
Had we command ; for Proctor will retreat !

He feels endangered in a special sense.
The savage massacre of prisoners
At Old Miami and at Raisin River
Has made him hated by the enemy,
Who, right or wrong, put all the blame on him,
And this he knows.

Enter GENERAL PROCTOR.

MCKEE. Would Brock were still alive !

PROCTOR. Pardon my overhearing ears !—what then ?

MCKEE. (*Turning sharply*). Then we should fight !

Some bold, some daring plan,
Would still forefend retreat.

PROCTOR. Some strange exploit !
Some headlong rashness which would find you graves.
'Twas prologue to his own : a fault in him
I would not emulate.

ELLIOTT. A fault in him !
His death was of the parcel of the man.
In him example, striving to excel
The precept, made him reckless of his life.
'Twas thus he lost it : his main force behind—
With but a handful, taken by surprise,
Rather than fly, he charged ! and, with the words,

"*Push on, my brave York Volunteers!*" he fell.

Oh, such a fall atoned for such a fault ;

For by that fall he lashed his followers

Up to a sure and terrible revenge.

It was a fearful victory ! Our foes,

Flying from death to death, sprang o'er the cliffs

And precipices of Niagara,

And, on the rocks, or in the swirling flood,

Made expiation of their foul invasion.

Let this dwell in our minds ! and let not death,

Or, rather, fear of death, repel us now,

Nor turn us to a base retreat from it.

PROCTOR. Let wisdom dwell, too, in our minds I urge.

Bethink you : Harrison is on the wing—

Thousands to hundreds is his argument !

Our fleet is captured ; our supplies are scant ;

And winter may be scented in the air.

We must retreat, since men must eat or die ;

So, winding up these threads of sense, prepare !

Lest time desert our opportunity.

BABY. What will Tecumseh say to this?

PROCTOR.

That dog,

Who barks at all I do, must come with us,

And guard our rear—else were his absence best.

MCKEE. Should he refuse?

Our foes, without our knowledge, by the hand.
Again the Long-Knife warred upon the King ;
Again our father handed us the axe,
With promise that our lands would be restored.
We have not shrunk from battle. We have fought,
And many of our people have been slain !
Our promise is redeemed ! but what of his ?
Oft have we heard you, boasting of him, say
He never would withdraw from British ground.
Yet, neither asking nor advising us,
We mark you now preparing to retreat—
Afraid to even see his enemies !
My brother, you are like a lusty dog
Which proudly curls its tail upon its back,
But, when affrighted, whips it 'tween its legs—
And runs for life ! Why should you meanly flee ?
The Long-Knives have not yet defeated us
By land, nor is it certain that your ships
Are captured on the lake ; but, even so,
First fight, and, if defeated, then retreat !
But, brother, if you will not fight, you hold
The arms our father furnished for our use.
Give these to us, and you may go in peace.
My people are in our Great Spirit's care !
We are determined to defend our lands,

Or, if He wills it, strew them with our bones.

BABY. Why, this is manliness, and pathos too !

PROCTOR. We must retreat. We cannot spare the arms
You now demand of us.

TECUMSEH. Not spare them, brother !
Do I hear aright ?

PROCTOR. We cannot spare them.

TECUMSEH. By Manitou you shall ! Those arms are
ours.

I would not quarrel lightly with my friend,
Nor cut the bands which bind me to his cause
Upon a small occasion ; but those arms,
Useless to him, are precious life to us,
And we shall have them.

PROCTOR. Yes, if you retreat !
We cannot spare them else.

TECUMSEH. And why retreat ?
The timid woman, and the child will stand,
And struggle when assaulted by their kind ;
Nay, hares resist, and gnats and flies will fight !
One thing alone runs from its sort in fear,
And thou art it !

PROCTOR. The wildest talk in sleep
Outmeasures this in sense. We must retreat !

TECUMSEH. Must ! must ! O, could my kindred spirit,
Brock,

But live again—be here—would he retreat ?
Yours his command. But why should I compare
The king-bird with the crow ! Brave Brock retreat !
O, when that badger was abroad, dogs hid
And gave the lie to nature ! Here we stay.
Give us the arms, and we shall act like him,
Whilst you make off in peace.

PROCTOR. This man would breed
A deadly quarrel—prudence bear me through ! (*Aside*)
I mean to give those arms, but for a use
More wise than you would put them to. Retreat
Is but to find some vantage in the woods—
Some footing for defence ; so, come with us ;
I would not ask you else.

TECUMSEH. Seek your own kind !
Go boom in festering swales, or, like a frog,
Croak your dull night-song in the standing pool—
Your voice is not a man's.

PROCTOR. This chief is fevered.
Explain the why and wherefore of retreat,
Then let him come with us or stay ; I care not—(*going*).

TECUMSEH. Ha ! There are cares my brother never
cared for ;

Duties to which he never paid his duty ;
 Sacred agreements, oaths and covenants
 Which he would break like twigs. Coward and liar !
 There's something here that whispers to my hand

[*Drawing his hatchet.*

To set you free from all.

[BABY, ELLIOTT and MCKEE *interpose.*

ELLIOTT. Tecumseh, hold !

BABY. This is unworthy of you. Be a man !

TECUMSEH. A man ! O, if to honour words by deeds ;
 To look on truth as on the healthful air,
 Without which I should suffocate and die ;
 To love my injured people, and oppose
 My constant spirit 'gainst tumultuous wrongs—
 If this is lack of manhood mark me down.
 But to be over-reached and thrown aside—
 Our mighty sacrifices and our service
 Rated as nothing in this coward's plans—
 It rends my soul. Back ! I shall chop his own
 From out its frame, and send the mould of lies
 Down to his people's hell ! Away !

MCKEE.

No ! no !

ELLIOTT. Stay, be advised by us !

[PROCTOR *retires, hastily.*

BABY.

Do nothing rash !

We are your friends—you know us to be true,
And we, like you, despise this General.
Fear bares the coward's heart. The gaudy acts
Whereby unsoundness shores its credit up
Are at its touch exposed. 'Tis so with him—
And thus far we are with you. But retreat
Hath a discreetness too. This Harrison,
Once landed, (for our long and liberal shores
We cannot well defend), might circle us,
And, with o'erwhelming numbers, hem us in.
But, by retreat, we have the choice of place,
And Harrison—you know the man—will follow.
The forest will befriend us—we can stand
Where'er we please, and shall whene'er you please.

TECUMSEH. So! Proctor's promises deceive you too!

BABY. Nay, 'tis my promise, and you know the stuff
My word is built on. Deal with me, Tecumseh,
As you had dealt with Proctor, if I lie.

TECUMSEH. My friend, your reason breaks a spirit's
wing

That ne'er touched ground before. Oh, I grow weak—
Cast from my thoughts, and, banished from my dream!
The plumed hope droops—fate's shadow covers it;

And dim forebodings peer into my soul.

I am not what I was—there—there—I'll go!

BABY. I hope to see you smile at this, ere long.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE SECOND.—A WOOD NEAR AMHERSTBURG.

TECUMSEH'S CAMP. A VISTA TO THE EAST—THE
SUN'S UPPER RIM JUST RISING ABOVE THE HORIZON.

*Enter WARRIORS and JOSAKEEDS. The warriors extend
their weapons toward the sun. The JOSAKEEDS ad-
vance facing it.*

1ST JOSAKEED. He comes! Yohewah! the Great
Spirit, comes

Up from his realm—the place of Breaking Light!
Hush, nations! Worship, in your souls, the King,
Above all Spirits! Master of our lives!
I-ge-zis! He that treads upon the day,
And makes the light!

2ND JOSAKEED. He comes! he comes! he comes!
The ever-dying, ever-living One!
He hears us, and he speaks thus to mine ears!
I wipe once more the darkness from the earth;
I look into the forest, and it sings—

The leaves exult ; the waters swim with joy.
 I look upon the nations, and their souls
 Strengthen with courage to resist their foes.
 I will restore them to their fathers' lands ;
 I will pour laughter on the earth, like rain,
 And fill the forest with its ancient food.
 Corn will be plenteous in the fields as dust,
 And fruits, moved to their joy, on every bough
 Will glow and gleam like ardent fire and gold.

3RD JOSAKEED. O, Mighty Spirit ! Guardian of our
 Breath !

We see thy body, and yet see thee not.
 The spirits in our forms, which no man sees,
 Breathe forth to thee, for they are born of thee.
 Hear us, thy children, and protect our lives !
 Our warriors retreat—it is thy will !
 Declare the way—the fateful time to stand !
 Then, if in battle they decline in death,
 Take them, O Master, to thy Mighty Heart—
 Thy Glorious Ground and Shining Place of Souls !
 Yohewa ! Master of Breath ! Yohewa !
 Hear us ! Hear us !

ALL

Master of Breath—hear us !

[*Exeunt.*

SCENE THIRD.—THE SAME.

A girl's voice singing without, then enter IENA, WINONA, WEETAMORE and other Indian maidens—some at quill-work, others embroidering.

IENA. There is within my heart, I know not why,
An apprehension I ne'er felt before.

WINONA. The night-sun set in cloud, and curling
mists
Hid the plumed star from sight. Mayhap, those signs
Bode danger to our loves. Sing Weetamore—
Your tender voice will charm away our fears.

IENA. Nay, sing no more in strains so sorrowful!
Why is it all our people's songs are sad?

[A bird's note is heard.]

WINONA. I know not why; no more than yon poor
bird
Knows why it mourns.

IENA. It is the wood pewee,
That haunts the deepest forest. 'Tis the bird
Yohewa gave to solitude for voice—
The lonely heart within the lonely heart!

Why comes this feathered sadness from its wilds,
To thrill us with its pain ?

Enter MAMATEE

O, Mamatee !

MAMATEE. Alas, alas, the Long-Knife's big canoes
Are on the lake, and sweeping to our shores !
Fort Malden burns ; our warriors retreat ;
And we, poor souls ! must fly to densest woods,
And wait till they return.

IENA. Till they return—
Ah ! when shall they return ?

Enter LEFROY.

Here comes my love,
With parting in his eyes.

LEFROY. You speak the word !
But, if we part, we part to meet again.
And, thus, to leave you for love's sake makes sweet
The bitter word, and will uphold my heart.
Tecumseh is already gone—farewell.

IENA. Farewell, and we shall meet again—here ?
where ?

Yes, yes, I know—there's something tells me where.

Farewell ! my love will follow you on wings
High-flighted as the swan's—my soul ! my soul !

[LEFROY places IENA in MAMATEE'S arms.

LEFROY. In loving arms I place this precious charge.
Oh, cherish her ! for she is dear to me
As is the Intercessor to your race.

[Exit LEFROY.

IENA. Now let me go—see—I am well again !
An impulse rises from the seat of dreams—
Love's apprehension may be cured by love.
Winona, will you help me ?

WINONA. Sister, how ?

IENA. Your brother, Chaska, is a slender youth,
With features softly fashioned. 'Tis a boy
Some say resembles me ; and like me, too,
His gentle form contains a venturous soul.
You make a young brave's suit for him, I think.

WINONA. Yes, for his huskenaw ; you call it that—
We have another name. Look, this completes it !

[Holding up an ornamented moccasin.

'Tis from the self-piece cut, and quill'd all o'er—
Your gathered edges show not half so well.

IENA. O, if you love me, let me have this dress.

WINONA. With all my heart ; but tell me, Iena,
What means this strange request ?

IENA. Come to your lodge!
I there shall tell you all I have in mind.

[*Exeunt IENA and WINONA.*]

MAMATEE. The girl conceives some folly. To my cares!
O weary woman, thine the weary work!

[*Exit MAMATEE.*]

1ST MAIDEN. Iena asked, and I do marvel why,
Our songs are all so sad. We forest maids
Should sing as lightly as our forest leaves.
'Tis strange!

WEETAMORE. You are too happy-young to think
'Tis else than strange. Now I shall answer you,
Ere Iena can come to chide the strain.

(*WEETAMORE sings.*)

Who would not be a forest-maid,
And ever spend at ease
The flowery season in the shade
Of sighing summer's sweetest trees?
But who would be a forest-maid,
Beset by foes and fears?
To see in every flash a blade,
To start at every sound she hears!

We flit—we fly—no home have we,
And terror is the tale;
A fate is whispered by the tree—
A doom is uttered by the gale.
Short season of delight have we,
But that of pain is long;
And, so, 'tis sorrow, and not glee,
That gives the burden to our song.

Re-enter IENA, dressed as a young Indian Brave.

IENA. Now for my bow ! my quiver ! here it is !
This quiver slung, I'm ready for the field.

1ST MAIDEN. Why, this is Iena !

IENA. Yes, Iena.

But, sisters, lock this secret in your hearts.
Love's Spirit whispered in a dream—" *Go, shield
Your lover in the fight !*"

2ND MAIDEN. A dream, a dream !

3RD MAIDEN. A sacred dream !

ALL. We promise to be true.

[The MAIDENS join hands and move in a circle round

IENA, chanting :

Spirit of Love ! Spirit of Love !
That in Great Nature's heart doth dwell :
Spirit of Love ! Spirit of Love !
Go with our sister—shield her well !

SCENE FOURTH.—THE RUINS OF FORT MALDEN
AT AMHERSTBURG.

Enter GENERAL HARRISON, and other American Officers.

HARRISON. All gone ! all gone ! Naught here but
smoking ruins !

Now would I give this Province for one man,
Were that man only Proctor. Perfidy!
Thy manager has fled; and we are balked
In our just vengeance.

1ST OFFICER. Let us follow him!

There are no ties 'twixt mercy and this man
That we should spare him.

HARRISON. No, his ruthless axe,
Stayed only by Tecumseh's noble rage,
Has lit upon too many helpless heads.
Their blood cries—"after him!" and with our force
We can o'erwhelm his if we overtake him.

2ND OFFICER. 'Tis strange Tecumseh hugs his flying
fortunes!

3RD OFFICER. Think you he is gone?

HARRISON. No doubt of it, else would he face us here.

2ND OFFICER. Had he remained we might perchance
have made

Our peace with him, and ended this long feud.

HARRISON. Made peace with him! There is no peace
- on earth

For him, save in it. We are what we are;
And if some miracle will work a change
In us, then shall we find him, as we would,
Contented but with peace. This much I say,

Knowing the man—but this is not the point!
'Tis Proctor, not Tecumseh, we discuss,
And Proctor we must capture if we can.

Enter a SCOUT.

What tidings have you gathered?

SCOUT. Proctor's force
Is making for the Heights of Burlington.
'Tis said Tecumseh made him pledge his word
To stand, and fight at the Moravian Town,
Should we pursue.

HARRISON. Will hounds pursue the hare?
'Tis boot-and-saddle, and quick marches now,
If we would catch the foe.

[Exeunt.]

SCENE FIFTH.—THE HIGHWAY THROUGH THE FOREST ON THE RIVER THAMES, NEAR THE MORAVIAN TOWN.

Enter TECUMSEH and his Chiefs, GENERAL PROCTOR, COLONEL BABY and other OFFICERS, and PROCTOR'S ORDERLY.

TECUMSEH. I'll go no further.

PROCTOR.

A little further—

Toward the heights—'twere well!

TECUMSEH. No, not a step,
Were they the Alleghanies! Here we stand!
The enemy draws near, and we must fight.

PROCTOR. Well, here we stand—here shall I lay my
bones,

If so God wills it. Ha—I like the spot!
A river to protect us on our left;
Swamps, to the north, and forest everywhere.
What a gigantic panoply of woods!
Why, here are maples scarce three men could girth
With their encircling arms. What trees!

TECUMSEH. Yes, yes—
Would they were soldiers, brother; they are strong,
And, being rooted to their place, would ne'er
Give way as we have done. But to affairs—

PROCTOR. Ay, to the proper ordering of our force.
Do you direct! What think you now is best?

TECUMSEH. Two swamps are here o'ergrown with
swollen trunks
Of black and moss-hung ash. Their underbrush,
Thick-set, and tangled with the blistering vine,
No cavalry can pass. Between them lies
A neck of open woods and turfy soil,
Where I shall plant my braves; but this straight path—

Come hither !

We may be beaten here—

ORDERLY. I think we shall.

PROCTOR. What right have you to think ?

ORDERLY. You said it, Sir.

PROCTOR. I said we may—(*aside*) tut ! this is less
than prudent.

Go, put my fleetest horses to my carriage ;
Have others ready-saddled in our rear,
And with some trusty fellows, stay by them—
They may be useful in emergency.

[*Exit* ORDERLY.]

If there are seasons in the soul of man,
As in the year, it is my bleakest now.
How many rail at me, and call me coward,
Because with prudent outlook I foresee
What can be done and what can not be done !
One must endure ! though to be misconceived ;
To find one's actions, and one's qualities
Framed in misapprehension ; to be deemed
The thing that one is not ; might well offend.
But that which guides my life enables me
To bear against the rub of false opinion ;
So, prudence, miscalled cowardice by those
Who count their rashness virtue, tend me still !

Tecumseh foolishly resolves to die—
For who, against such odds, can hope to live?
And, if there is a virtue in mere death,
Then is he welcome to his grave and all
The honor and the glory death can give.
But those who have some business still on earth—
Something to do that cannot else be done—
Look on this matter, death, with different eye,
As I do now. It is our trumpet call!
My soldiers come; so let the quick resolve
Spur the calm judgment on to execution.

SCENE SIXTH.—TECUMSEH'S PART OF THE FIELD.

Enter TECUMSEH.

TECUMSEH. This is our summer—when the painted
wolds,
Like pictures in a dream, enchant the sight.
The forest bursts in glory like a flame!
Its leaves are sparks; its mystic breath the haze
Which blends in purple incense with the air.
The Spirit of the Woods has decked his home,
And put his wonders like a garment on,
To flash, and glow, and dull, and fade, and die.
Oh, let not manhood fade within my soul!

And thou, pale doubt, that hast distracted me—
Ye forecasts that would drag my spirit down—
Hence and forever fly! Ye have no place,
No business in this breast. My field is here!
Here must my people's cause be lifted up,
Or sink to rise no more. [Exit.

Enter three American SCOUTS, looking cautiously about them.

1ST SCOUT.

This is their spot.

2ND SCOUT. No doubt of it! 'Tis here they mean to
fight.

3RD SCOUT. I see them coming. Look! away—
away! [Exeunt.

*(Firing, and other sounds of conflict, are heard from
PROCTOR'S part of the field, and then suddenly stop.)*

*Re enter TECUMSEH, with STAYETA and his other Chiefs
and Warriors.*

STAYETA. The noise of battle rose, and then it ceased
Almost upon beginning. This is strange.

TECUMSEH. It is; ah, Proctor, how my soul mistrusts
thee!

Go, some of you, see what this silence means—
But, stay—here comes a witness of the fight.

Enter LEFROY, out of breath, and excited.

LEFROY. The line was broken by a charge of horse,
And, in the British quarter, all is lost.

TECUMSEH. And Proctor—he who meant to leave
his bones,
If so God willed it—

LEFROY. Willed it otherwise!

Upon the instant of attack he fled;
And, seeing this, the line gave way at once.

TECUMSEH. 'Twas this I feared. He loves his wretched
life

Too well to leave his vile bones anywhere.
Dastard and coward! O, the heavens should crack,
And dart their lightning down upon this slave!
How come such creatures 'mongst the breed of men
To make their nation blush?

LEFROY. I cannot tell.

Like sulphur in rain-channels after storms,
Or little frogs, one marvels how they come.
But some fought well; Baby, among the rest,
Who now is prisoner. Myself was saved
Most strangely by a boy—a youthful brave,
Whose arrows helped me in a dangerous spot.
I never saw so sweet a lad before.

His face! I started when I saw it first—
It seemed so like to Iena's! Think you,
Could she be here?

TECUMSEH. Impossible!

DAHCOTA CHIEF. No, no.

'Twas Chaska, of our nation; one who longs
For plumes before his time. He has been seen,
Yet is so active that we cannot catch him.

LEFROY. Ah, then, 'twas he! This way he ran before
me,
Round the rough angle of the lower swamp,
Then darted into it. I followed fast,
And sought, but could not find him—he was gone.

*(A flourish of trumpets without, sounding the advance of
the American force.)*

STAYETA. Hark! Now the Long-Knives come!

TECUMSEH. Yes, now they come.

Courage! Warriors, courage! Let our deeds
Take colour from the scene. Now must we fight
Like men; not run like slaves. What matters it
To those who fled, and left us, if they fly?
They can join palms, make peace, draw treaties up,
And son and father reconciled again,
Will clap their hands, and glory in their race
Which hath despoiled our own. For us, no peace

Save what our axes gain, or, in our graves.
 Therefore—as men fore-doomed to war or death—
 Let valour make excuse that we shall live,
 And, breathing vengeance, shake our spoilers so
 That they will reel in terror to the East,
 From whence they came, and cry—“*The West is yours!*”
 Oh, warriors, think of all, and strike like men
 Whose homes are in their hands, whose souls are free.
 The voice that calls you now will call no more,
 For something whispers to this fearless heart—
 Here must I fight, and for my people die!

DELAWARE CHIEF. Then shall we fight and die with
 you like men.

DAKOTA CHIEF. Or live, to see you Chief of all our
 race.

*A flourish without, then enter the American Forces. A
 fierce hand-to-hand conflict begins.*

TECUMSEH. Our foes are turning! Strike them! beat
 them back!

STAYETA. Pursue! pursue!

The American Troops retreat fighting. Exeunt Omnes.

Enter IENA, from behind.

IENA. I hear yet cannot see
 The dreadful fray! My arrows all are spent.

There are a thousand in my quivered heart
 Could I but match them to this useless bow.
 What shall I do? Ah, this is our own tree!
 It will protect me whilst I wait the end.

[Retires behind a large sugar maple.]

*Re-enter a small band of Braves, driven back by Soldiers
 who chase them out and then return.*

1ST SOLDIER. Ha, ha, those red-skins fled like hunted
 wolves!

Away, and start another pack!

[Exeunt forward.]

IENA. *(Looking out)* Alas!

Our people 'gin to fly—I fear—I fear.

Here comes my love! O for one arrow more!

*Enter LEFROY and an AMERICAN OFFICER fighting with
 swords. In the struggle they draw abreast of IENA'S
 tree, and pause.*

OFFICER. You are a white man.

LEFROY.

I am a white man.

OFFICER. And what a soulless one are you to leave
 Your place in civil, good society
 And herd with savages; from one extreme
 To fall away unto the basest side—

The furthest from the humanized world.

LEFROY. Nay, I deny it! Further I would say,
My genius leans, like Nature, to all sides,
Can love them all at once, and live with all.

OFFICER. So! so! you are a poet, painter, what?
Well, that is nothing; I must try and kill you.

(They fight again, and LEFROY disarms the OFFICER).

LEFROY. Now might I kill you if I had the heart.
Be prisoner instead; I cannot kill
A man thus, in cold blood.

Re-enter two SOLDIERS.

OFFICER. 'Tis more than kind.

1ST SOLDIER. Why, that's our captain there, disarmed—
let fly!

My carbine is unloaded.

*(Second SOLDIER aims at LEFROY. IENA, with a cry, leaps
from her shelter, intercepts the fire, and is shot dead).*

LEFROY. Who is this?

Not Chaska! O, no no—'tis Iena!

I see her now, who could not see my love—

Love clear and incorruptible as glass,

Love that had dared a monster, wilds and floods—

Dare fire, and draw the bow that shielded me.

Speak to me Iena! No voice—she's dead!

OFFICER. This is the strangest chapter of my life—
Soldiers stand off, and rest upon your arms.

LEFROY. Silent for ever! Oh, my girl! my girl!
Those rich eyes melt; those lips are sun-warm still—
They look like life, yet have no semblant voice.
Millions of creatures throng and multitudes
Of heartless beings flaunt upon the earth:
There's room enough for them; but thou, dull Fate—
Thou cold and partial tender of life's field,
That pluck'st the flower, and leav'st the weed to thrive—
Thou had'st not room for her! Oh, I must seek
A way out of the rack—I need not live.

OFFICER. The world grows less familiar every hour:—
Is that a girl?

LEFROY. Yes, yes, but she is dead—
And love is left upon the earth to starve.
My object's gone, and I am but a shell,
A husk, an empty case, or anything
That may be kicked about the world.

[Exit LEFROY, carrying IENA's body.]

OFFICER. I see!
I have a tear or two behind these eyes,
And they are coming. If he need a friend
I know of one.

2ND SOLDIER. Now, dang me, who'd 'a thought
That was a girl!

OFFICER. (*Turning aside.*) What strange and selfless
paths

Do skirt the world's hard highway! I have seen
What gives me sight. The tide of battle rolls
Back, and our people win, as win they must:
But now, methinks, I'll strive with different heart.
Come, soldiers, let's away and join the fight.

[*Exeunt through a by entrance.*]

*Re-enter TECUMSEH'S warriors driven back, and then re-
enter TECUMSEH, STAYETA, and other Chiefs.*

TECUMSEH. Has death died out, that no one now can
die?

Or are you driven back by fear of it?

O, slaves or men, determine which you are!

Re-enter the American troops in pursuit.

STAYETA. Tecumseh calls! Oa, warriors! strike them
down!

TECUMSEH *and his warriors, by a fierce onslaught, again
drive their opponents back. The fight continues with,
out—then re-enter TECUMSEH mortally wounded.*

TECUMSEH. Great Spirit, hadst thou spared me but one
hour—
Yet thy behest rules all.

Re-enter DELAWARE CHIEF, also wounded.

DELAWARE CHIEF. What! wounded too?

TECUMSEH. Yes, I am shot. Recall some warriors
To bear my body hence. Give no alarm,
Lest our poor braves lose courage; but make haste—
I have not long to live. Yet hear my words!
Bury me in the deep and densest forest,
And let no white man know where I am laid.
Promise this ere you go.)

DELAWARE CHIEF. I promise it.
Alas, alas, our bravest and our best!

[Exit DELAWARE CHIEF.]

TECUMSEH. The hour is come! these weary hands and
feet
Draw to the grave. Oh, I have loved my life,
Not for my own, but for my people's cause.
Who now will knit them? who will lead them on?
Lost! lost! lost! The pale destroyer triumphs!
I see my people fly—I hear their shrieks—
And none to shield or save! My axe! my axe

Ha—it is here ! No, no—the power is past.

Oh, Mighty Spirit, shelter—save—my people !

[Falls dead.

SCENE SEVENTH.—ANOTHER PART OF THE FIELD.

*Enter GENERAL HARRISON and other American Officers,
and COLONEL BABY, a prisoner.*

HARRISON. You were too brave a man, Baby, to swell
The craven Proctor's flight of followers.

BABY. Speak not of him ! I mourn the death of one—
A soldier—and a savage if you will—
As able, honorable, valiant, pure,
As ever graced the annals of the earth.

HARRISON. You mean Tecumseh ; search is made for
him.

I hope to give him fitting burial.

BABY. Oh, sir, he loved his people ! They are men
Much hated by the small and greedy mind—
The mind that is not gentle, and that jeers
And laughs at all forlorn and broken fortune.
And some there be who coldly pass them by
As creatures ruled by appetite, not law ;
Yet, though to such they seem but human beasts,

They are to those who know, or study them
 A world of wonders ! I entreat you, sir,
 To make right use of your authority,
 And shield them if you can.

HARRISON.

I shall, I shall.

Right feeling tends this way, though 'tis a course
 Not to be smoothly steered.

Enter a party of soldiers.

1ST SOLDIER.

Tecumseh's body

Cannot be found ; 'twas borne away and buried
 By faithful friends who would not name the place,
 If they were tortured.

1ST OFFICER.

He is well content

Without our honors. This man's race hath lost
 A lofty spirit.

2ND OFFICER.

All will mourn for him !

No need had he of schools or learned books—
 His soul his mentor, his keen lion-looks
 Pierced to the heart of things. Nor needed he
 Counsels of strength and goodness. To be free
 Required no teacher, no historic page,
 No large examples sought from age to age.
 For such things were himself, and, as his breath,
 Instinctive, pleaders 'gainst the fears of death.

HARRISON. Sleep well, Tecumseh, in thy unknown
grave,

Thou mighty savage, resolute and brave!
Thou, master and strong spirit of the woods,
Unsheltered traveller in sad solitudes,
Yearener o'er Wyandot and Cherokee,
Couldst tell us now what hath been and shall be!

[*Exeunt.*]

THE END.

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NOTES.

TECUMSEH AND THE PROPHET.

No. 1. Page 9.

The tribe from which Tecumseh sprung was a branch of the wide-spread *Lenni Lenape*, or Delaware race, which had long been settled in the south; and which, for this reason, received the name of the Shawanoes, or 'Southerners.' Having become involved in disputes with the Creeks, Yamasees and other powerful tribes in Georgia and the Floridas, the Shawanoes removed from the south to the Valley of the Ohio, in the first half of the last century, and spread themselves along the banks of the Scioto river and Great Miami. The immense region west of the Alleghanies was then an unbroken wilderness, with the exception of the villages, or towns as they were called, of the red men; and it was in one of these that Tecumseh (or Tecumthé, said to mean a *shooting star*) was born. His birth took place about the year 1768, either at Piqwa, on a tributary of the Great Miami river, or at Chilicothe, another old Indian village on the Scioto, in what is now the State of Ohio. His father was killed at the battle of Kanawha, where, on the 10th October, 1774, Lord Dunmore's forces defeated the celebrated Chief Cornstalk. His mother was a Cherokee woman, and is said to have been delivered of Tecumseh, the Prophet, and a third brother at the same time. Tecumseh became celebrated in early manhood for his exploits against white encroachers on the Ohio; and was engaged in almost every struggle of his people against the Americans down to the day of his death. Engrossed in projects for the defence of his race, he did not marry until long after the usual period, and then only as a matter of policy, and in deference to the urgent desire of his friends. His genius was first aroused to its fullest activity by certain treaties, known as the Treaties of Fort Wayne, whereby an extensive region on the Ohio, running up one of its tributaries, the Wabash, on both sides, for a great distance, was ceded to the

whites. These treaties, made by alleged irresponsible Indians or village chiefs, as they were called, meant, of course, displacement to a number of tribes, whose war chiefs alleged that their people, not having been consulted in the making of them, had been swindled. Tecumseh had long foreseen that nothing but combination could prevent the encroachments of the whites upon the Ohio, and had long been successfully endeavouring to bring about a union of the tribes who inhabited its valley. The Fort Wayne treaties gave a wider scope to his design and he now originated his great scheme of a federation of the entire red race. In pursuance of this object his exertions, hitherto very arduous, became almost superhuman. He made repeated journeys and visited almost every tribe from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes, and even north of them, and far to the west of the Mississippi. In order to further his scheme he took advantage of his brother's growing reputation as a prophet, and allowed him to gain a powerful hold upon the superstitious minds of his people by his preaching and predictions. The Prophet professed to have obtained from the Great Spirit a magic bowl, which possessed miraculous qualities; also a mystic torch presumably from Nanabush, the keeper of the sacred fire. He asserted that a certain belt, said to make those invulnerable who touched it whilst in his hands, was composed of beans which had grown from his flesh; and this belt was circulated far and wide by Indian runners, finding its way even to the Red River of the North. These, coupled with his oratory and mummeries, greatly enhanced an influence which was possibly added to by a gloomy and saturnine countenance, made more forbidding still by the loss of an eye. Unfortunately for Tecumseh's enterprise, the Prophet was more bent upon personal notoriety than upon the welfare of his people; and, whilst professing the latter, indulged his ambition, in Tecumseh's absence, by a precipitate attack upon Harrison's force on the Tippecanoe. His defeat discredited his assumption of supernatural powers; led to distrust and defection, and wrecked Tecumseh's plan of independent action. But the protection of his people was Tecumseh's sole ambition; and, true statesman that he was, he joined the British at Amherstburg (Fort Malden), in Upper Canada, with a large force, and in the summer of 1812 began that series of services to the British interest which has made his name a household word in

Canada, and endeared him to the Canadian heart. As Colonel Coffin says, in his Chronicles of the War of 1812: "His death sheds a halo on a much abused and fast departing race. May the people of England, and their descendants in Canada, never forget this noble sacrifice, or the sacred obligation it imposes. It should be held as the seal of a great covenant: 'And Jonathan said to David, the Lord be between thee and me, and between my seed and thy seed forever.'" Those who buried Tecumseh never revealed the secret of his burial place, and the Indians resented, for many years, any attempt to explore the region of his last battle for his grave. It is not likely that his bones will ever be recovered; but to Canadians, whose fathers were the friends of his race, there remains the duty of perpetuating his memory. There is not in all history a nobler example of true manhood and patriotism.

Note 2. Page 11.

*"The Prophet! Olliwayshilla, who probes
The spirit world."*

The Prophet had many names. His first was Olliwayshilla (the Loud Voice); his last was Tenskwatawa, or the Open Door. In the year 1808, in order to facilitate his project of a confederacy, Tecumseh, in conjunction with his brother, established a village at the junction of a stream called by the Indians Tippecanoesipi, or Night-Owl river, with the Wabash, or Fox, one of the largest tributaries of the Ohio. The site of the village was well chosen, being far above the white settlement of Vincennes, yet having easy access to it down the Wabash. The village, which was known as the Prophet's Town, soon became the resort of large numbers of Indians, who flocked to it as the headquarters of the revived faith, and of Tecumseh's military power. After the battle of Tippecanoe the Prophet fell into disrepute, and is said to have ultimately retired with the remnant of his tribe to the Indian Territory, where he died, some fifty years ago.

Note 3. Page 12. }

*"The Prophet's Robe,
Which I assumed when old Pengasega died."*

The Prophet, or Josakeed, is held in reverence by all Pagan Indians. He uses an unknown tongue in important ceremonies, and

in the mysteries of the *Metay-win*—the most sacred festival of the Algonquin race. To the back of his robe, or to some other part of his person, is affixed the skin and outspread wings of a raven or other bird—the invariable badge of the Prophet's office. Though some Josakeeds are impostors, yet generally they are firm believers in their own powers. They appear to exercise more beneficent functions than those of the Medicine-man, and to aim at the moral elevation of their people. The Medicine-man, on the other hand, is a juggler and exorcist, whose mysterious doings are a puzzle to the onlooker. He is feared as a man who has dealings with Evil Spirits. Tecumseh's famous brother assumed to succeed Pengasega (the Change-of-Feathers), a Prophet whose death was much lamented amongst the Shawanoes of his region. The more sinister functions of a magician he superadded, in order to increase his influence, and further his selfish ambition.

Note 4. Page 14.

"Old Shataronra's grave

Sends up its ghost, and Tetaboxi's hairs

White with sad years and counsel."

The somewhat sudden rise of the Prophet provoked at first much jealousy amongst certain of his tribe, who felt that he was undermining them. To counteract it, he instituted a persecution for sorcery, which involved both sexes. Numbers were burnt, including those named, before Tecumseh, who was absent, could interfere.

Note 5. Page 17.

"Of Long-Knife forts, encampments, and their chiefs."

* * * * *

"Then he declared he was a Saganash."

The American, or Yankee, is called by the Indians of the Algonquin race *Chemo-komawn*, or the Long-Knife, from the sabre. The Englishman, or Canadian, they call *Saganashay*, the Ojibway form of the Cree word *Aka-yas-see*: *Aka-yas-see-wuk*—"People who have sailed across." These were general names, understood, or made use of by most Indians; and nations other than the Delaware made use of them, or simply translated them into their

own tongue, according to their custom. Other names, however, were sometimes given. The Shawanoes, for example, called the Englishman *Metticosea*. The Algonquin word *Chemo-komaun* became greatly softened in the southern dialects, and is scarcely recognizable in the musical Shawanoe word *Shemaunthé*.

Note 6. Page 18.

"In headship with our Saganash allies."

Tecumseh, who foresaw a war between England and the United States, dreamed of taking part in it, as the leader of an independent power, and of coming in at its successful end as one of the signatories to a treaty of peace, securing the rights of his people.

Note 7. Page 19.

"And agent sent by General Harrison."

General William Henry Harrison was born at Berkley, in Virginia, in 1773, and was the son of Benjamin Harrison, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was aid-de-camp to General Wayne in his campaign against the Indians, in 1794, and in 1801 was appointed Governor of the newly-formed Indiana Territory, a vast region which, extending from the Ohio to the Mississippi, contained at that time but three small settlements of white men, including the old French village of Vincennes. This region was inhabited by numerous tribes of Indians, many of whom cultivated maize, possessed orchards, and had, on the principal streams, considerable villages, consisting of rude log cabins, but little inferior to those of the early white settlers. The destruction of these towns, as they were called, and the treatment of the aboriginal inhabitants of this region, now constituting numerous populous States, is one of the dark chapters in history. Year by year the irresistible tide of whites poured into the Territory in ever increasing volume; and, though Harrison, a man of humane and generous nature, meditated nothing but kind and just treatment of the native races, and warmly advocated it both publicly and privately, yet nothing could restrain the rapacious adventurers who spread themselves everywhere, and looked upon Indian Treaties as so much waste paper. To have opposed their grasping spirit too strongly would have brought upon

Harrison political extinction, and he was, therefore, it may be taken for granted, compelled to wink at aggression and injustice too often veiled under the specious name of progress. Harrison's victory at Tippecanoe won him great repute, and was the precursor of the war of 1812. His subsequent victory, with a greatly superior force, over Tecumseh and Proctor at the Moravian Town, established his fame amongst his countrymen. He shortly afterwards resigned his commission, disgusted with unfair treatment at the hands of the Secretary of War, and retired to his farm at North Bend, on the Ohio, whence, in 1839, he was called to the Presidency of the United States. He died, deeply regretted by the American people, shortly after his inauguration.

Note 8. Page 19.

"You are an enemy to the Seventeen Fires."

At this time the United States numbered seventeen, and were called by the Indians the Seventeen Fires, in accordance with their own custom of Council Fires, around which all their deliberations took place.

Note 9. Page 28.

"First comes his pioneer, the bee."

It is a curious fact in natural history, that the wild bee has been in America the pioneer of the white man. It is but a few years since it was first seen on the Saskatchewan.

"His flowers, his very weeds, displace our own."

The European flowers and weeds are usurping the place of the indigenous flora of North America. The white clover, for example, which twenty years ago had only reached the Sauk Valley, in Minnesota, is now found hundreds of miles further to the north-west.

Note 10. Page 32.

*"So that your lodge o'erflows with mousfles sweet,
And hips of wapiti, and bedded robes."*

The mouffle is the nose of the moose, or American elk. When boiled for a long time it becomes very tender and jelly-like, and is a delicacy. The wapiti is the American red deer, frequently mis-called the elk.

Note 11. Page 36.

*"Who fought as devils fight until the lodge
Shook to its base with struggling."*

The performances of the Indian medicine-men in their medicine lodges are very curious. The lodge is a structure of poles and dressed skins, sometimes large enough to accommodate fifty people. The medicine-man enters it alone, and presently the sounds of alteration are heard in an unknown tongue; flashes of fire issue from the lodge, which begins to rock, and is, at last, so violently shaken as to threaten its overthrow. These feats are performed simultaneously, and sometimes for prolonged periods. Collusion must be very adroitly employed, for intelligent half-breeds, who have frequently witnessed the performance, assert that there is none. The belief is prevalent amongst them that the genuine medicine-man possesses extraordinary and occult powers; and, certainly, their performances deserve more investigation than they have yet received.

Note 12. Page 37.

"Roped round with scars and cicatrized wounds."

The initiation of warriors is a solemn ordeal amongst most Indian nations. On reaching manhood the candidate prepares himself for his trial by a severe and sleepless fast lasting several days. This is followed by elaborate religious ceremonies, after which the aspirant, in presence of the chiefs and warriors of his tribe, is subjected to dreadful tortures. Sharp splinters are thrust between the skin and muscles of his breast and back, and from these he is suspended by cords, and turned round slowly, so as to produce excruciating pain which must be borne without a murmur, to be accounted a satisfactory test of the candidate's endurance. Other trials and ceremonies follow, and the candidate, if he acquits himself heroically throughout, assumes the status of a trusty warrior of his nation. The marks of this ordeal remain in hard cord-like scars which are ever after the proud evidence of fortitude and unquailing courage. These ordeals are sometimes repeated in after life, and warriors are to be met with on the western plains to-day who exhibit five or six rows of these great cicatrices on their breast, back and arms. The preliminary initiation of boys was, and probably is still, practiced by the south-

ern tribes. It was called the *Huskenaw*, and began with dancing, in which the old and young of both sexes took part. The boys "ran the gauntlet," and were then confined in the woods for several weeks and fed solely upon roots. The object each boy most frequently dreamt of during this period became his guardian spirit for life. Implicit faith is placed by the Indians in dreams, and fasting is often resorted to in order to induce them. If an Indian dreams of things above the earth, as of stars, clouds, &c., the dream is considered favourable; if below, the reverse.

Note 13. Pages 39 & 42.

"And made their hosts a winter's feast for wolves."

* * * * *

"And old Kanaukwa, famed when we were young."

General Harmar was defeated in September, 1791, by Michi-Kanaukwa, or Little Turtle, as he was called by the Americans. In the following November General St. Clair was defeated by the same chief, with great loss. Hundreds of the American dead were left unburied on the field, and were devoured by wild animals. After the treaty of Greenville, consequent upon the victory of General Wayne, in 1794, the Little Turtle settled at Eel River, and lived in a house furnished by the American Government. This conduct subjected him to the suspicion of his people; and his equivocal attitude in the negotiation of the Fort Wayne Treaty of 1803 confirmed it.

Note 14. Page 42.

"And with the peace-pipe sits beside their fire."

The calumet—a corruption of the Norman *chalumeau* was constantly employed by the Indians in treaty-making. The Ojibway pipe was made of green porphyry and was called the *pwagun*. The pipe of the Plain Indians was made of a red sand-stone taken from the ancient pipe-stone quarry in western Minnesota.

Note 15. Page 46.

"White wampum, not the dark, till we can strike
With certain aim."

Wampum (once greatly valued by the Indians) was made from several kinds of shells, particularly the mussel, the clam and the

conch. Pieces of the thickness of a small clay pipe-stem, and about half an inch in length, were with great labour cut from the enamel, perforated, and strung on sinews, so as to form belts. These, according to the adjustment and colour, were tribal records or the symbols of peace or war. The colour of the war-belt was purple or red; of the peace-belt, white. European traders substituted porcelain for the shell wampum, and degraded its value; for, like the *courry* in India, it was used by the Red Indians as money. It has long been disused.

Note 16. Page 50.

"You've heard o' them Delaware Moravians, surely."

The horrible incident recorded in this passage is an historical fact. The descendants of the remnant that escaped are still in possession of their lands at the Moravian Towns, Ontario, and are still presided over by a Moravian missionary.

Note 17. Page 55. ▲

"Gold is the King who overrides the right."

The better class, and thoughtful people of the United States, feel deeply the want of honour in the treatment of the Indians. The late Mrs Helen Hunt Jackson has written a most powerful appeal in their favour, and entitles it "*A Century of Dishonor.*" Bishop Whipple, of Minnesota, in the preface he has written to the work, says: "The sad revelation of broken faith, of violated treaties, and of inhuman deeds of violence will bring a flush of shame to the cheeks of those who love their country."

Note 18. Page 56.

*"But look at him—look at Tecumseh there—
how simple in attire!"*

Tecumseh had hazel eyes, an aquiline nose, and a somewhat oval countenance. "He was," says Colonel Coffin (*Chronicles of the War of 1812*), "about five feet ten inches in height, and of a well-knit active figure. Contrary to the Indian nature, he had an aversion to external ornament. His invariable costume was the deer-skin coat and fringed pantaloons. Indian moccasins on his feet, and an eagle feather completed his simple and soldierly accoutrements. The foregoing is the gist of minute accounts left by the late Colonel

Glegg, of Thursteston Hall, Cheshire, General Brock's aide, and Colonel Hatch, one of General Hull's officers at the surrender of Detroit.

Note 19. Page 66

*"I'd put a lump o' bacon in his mouth to keep
his bilin' sap o' passion down."*

In making maple sugar the settler suspends a piece of fat bacon by a string over the cauldron to prevent the sap from boiling over. The Indians use a spray of the balsam spruce for the same purpose.

Note 20. Page 80.

"Each couée and ravine."

In Western America certain prairie water-courses are called couées. The melted snow, etc. is carried off by them in spring, but in summer and winter they are generally quite dry.

Note 21. Page 83.

"Hark! 'Tis the war song."

Ye-awe! hi, ya! whe, ya wha! a-a-a-a-a, whe, ya wha! a-a-a-a.

The foregoing chant, which is taken from Peter Dooyentatg Clarke's *Origin and Traditional History of the Wyandots*, is substantially the same as that now in use by the Indian tribes in the British North-West Territories and elsewhere. This chant, which to the uninstructed on-looker appears to be mere gibberish, is an invocation to the Great Spirit—the changes being rung upon the sacred syllables, *ya* and *wah*. Yo-he-wah is the Indian's sacred name for the Deity. The sacred syllables enter into the construction of many words applicable to the Deity, such as power, light, goodness, etc., and those who think the Indians descendants of the Lost Ten Tribes connect the Indian word with the Jewish Jehovah. The warriors begin the chant in a high key, the voice gradually falling until the sounds are almost indistinct, then swelling up to full pitch again. At intervals the chant is interrupted by war whoops.

Note 22. Page 89.

*"Go bring the braves to view the Mystic Torch
And belt of Sacred Beans grown from my flesh."*

See note 1 concerning the above and the Prophet's Magic Bowl.

Note 23. Page 93.

"Go to the corn-dance, change your name to villain!"

The corn-dance is held in the middle of August. Children are named at it, and warriors can then change their names if they choose.

Note 24. Page 96.

MAJOR-GENERAL BROCK.

This distinguished soldier was born in Guernsey, in 1769—the year which gave Napoleon and Wellington to the world. At the age of fifteen he entered the British army as an ensign, and at twenty-eight became lieutenant-colonel of the 49th Regiment. He served in Holland, and was wounded at the battle of Egmont-ap-Zee, and subsequently took part in Nelson's attack upon Copenhagen as second in command of the land forces. He was sent to Canada in the spring of 1802, and, after nine years of valuable service, was advanced to the rank of Major-General, and stationed in the upper Province, where, Lieutenant-Governor Gore having gone to England on leave of absence, he succeeded him as Administrator of the Government of Upper Canada in October, 1811. He had been for some time negotiating for a transfer to Wellington's command in the Peninsula; but the breaking out of the war with the United States in 1812 changed all his plans, and his fortunate union of offices gave him control of the civil and military affairs of the Province at the most critical period in its history. Boldness, energy and decision characterized his every movement, infused enthusiasm into the loyal, confirmed the wavering, and overawed the disaffected; and so prompt and speedy were his operations, that in eighteen days from his departure with his force from York (now Toronto) he had conquered Michigan Territory, provided for its government, and returned to Fort George. His intention when he left Detroit was to proceed immediately to Sackett's Harbour on Lake Ontario, and destroy the American naval arsenal there. To his mortification he found that an armistice had been proposed by Sir George Prevost, and consented to by the American General, Dearborn, the intelligence of which only reached him on his way down Lake Erie. In all likelihood he would have succeeded at Sackett's Harbour, and so prevented the Americans from equipping

the fleet which gave them the command of Lake Ontario, and enabled them twice to capture the capital of Upper Canada. Strange to say, after Brock's death this unfortunate armistice was capped by another, granted by General Sheaffe at the instance of the American General Smythe, by which the Americans were enabled to equip their fleet at Presq' isle, and gain the command of Lake Erie. This preponderance upon the Lake was dreaded by Brock, whose movements, however, were paralyzed by the continuous policy of inactivity of the Commander-in-Chief. In one of his letters from Fort George he says—"The enemy is making every exertion to gain a naval superiority on both lakes, which if they accomplish I do not see how we can retain the country. . . . I shall refrain as long as possible, under your excellency's positive injunctions, from every hostile act, although sensible that each day's delay gives him an advantage." On the expiry of the first armistice, and when hostilities begun again, Brock exhibited his usual vigilance and promptitude until, on the 13th October, 1812, he met his death gloriously on Queenston Heights. He fell early in the day, but inspired by his example his followers won a complete victory, and signally avenged his death. His monument, erected by the Canadian people on Queenston Heights, is one of the finest in the world, and attests the respect in which his memory is regarded by them, who look upon him as the Americans look upon Washington. His remains, and those of his Canadian aide-de-camp, the gallant Macdonell, who fell in the same battle, rest side by side under the monument.

Note 25. Page 96.

"Hull's threatened ravage of our western coast."

William Hull was born in Connecticut, and upon the outbreak of the Revolution took service in defence of the revolted colonies. He was present in numerous battles, and after the peace became a collector of customs. When well advanced in years he was made Governor of Michigan Territory, and resided in Detroit, then a little village. He was in Washington in the winter of 1812, and, preparations being then afoot preparatory to a declaration of war, he reluctantly accepted the appointment of brigadier-general in command of the Ohio volunteer militia, embodied to march upon Detroit with the view of a descent upon Canada, to which he was opposed. The

fourth regiment of regulars, which had helped to defeat the Prophet at Tippecanoe, and three regiments of militia, were joined to his command. "On the march," says Lossing (*Field Book of the War of 1812, note to page 260*), "General Hull had been subjected to much annoyance from the Ohio volunteers. . . . They were frequently quite insubordinate." . . . This fact was brought out on Hull's trial. "One evening," says Lieutenant Barron, "while at Urbana, I saw a multitude, and heard a noise, and was informed that a company of Ohio volunteers were riding one of their officers on a rail." On arrival at Detroit, Colonel Cass, a young eastern lawyer of fire-eating tendencies, in command of the 3rd regiment of volunteers, and others of a kindred spirit, urged a descent upon Canada, which the general opposed, until the arrival of instructions from Washington. These having at last reached him, he issued a boastful and threatening proclamation to the people of Canada (the composition of which has been attributed to Cass), and crossed the Detroit on the 12th July, 1812, but retreated on the 8th of August following. General Brock reached Sandwich, nearly opposite Detroit, on the 15th, and, in conjunction with Tecumseh, quickly matured his scheme of attacking Fort Detroit. The next day Hull capitulated to a force greatly inferior in numbers, and consisting mainly of Canadian volunteers and Indians. He was subsequently tried by court-martial at Albany, N. Y., in January, 1814, and sentenced to be shot. "Mr. Madison pardoned him," says Lossing, "and he retired to his farm to live in comparative obscurity, under a cloud of almost universal reproach." Dispassionate criticism has since to a large extent justified Hull in his conduct.

Note 26. Page 97.

"Bid Colonel Proctor come."

It may be thought that the traits of this officer have been too strongly shaded in the drama. There can be no doubt that his retreat from Amherstburg had its justifiable and prudential side, and what a more daring General, Brock for instance, would have done under the circumstances, one can only conjecture. But General Proctor, by basely casting the blame of the disaster at the Moravian Town upon his troops, weaned from himself all sympathy. He is

still held in poor remembrance in Canada. The General Order of the Prince Regent confirming the court martial held at Montreal in December, 1814, and ordered to be read at the head of every regiment in his Majesty's service, concludes thus: "His royal highness has directed the general officer commanding in Canada, to convey to Major-General Proctor his royal highness's high disapprobation of his conduct; together with the expression of his royal highness's regret that any officer of the length of service, and the exalted rank he has attained, should be so extremely wanting in professional knowledge, and deficient in those active, energetic qualities which must be required of every officer, but especially of one in the responsible situation in which the Major-General was placed."

Note 27. Page 103.

"Enter two U. E. Loyalists, separately."

On the revolt of the American colonies, in 1776, a large number of the colonists remained loyal to the Crown, and fought under the British colours for the maintenance of a United Empire. They were known as the United Empire Loyalists. At the close of the war these loyalists, driven from their homes, came to the wilderness of Canada, where, under severe hardships and trials, they carved new homes in the forest, under the same flag they had fought so hard to uphold. When the war of 1812 broke out, the old loyalists and their hardy sons, burning under the recollection of their wrongs, and valuing deeply the privileges they had sacrificed so much to retain, rallied around Brock to defend once more the unity of the Empire. It was this element that gave the tone to public feeling in Upper Canada in 1812. The whole population turned out to fight for Canada. Few but the old men, the women, and the children were left at home, in the lonely clearings; and many instances are recorded of tenderly-nurtured ladies, whose husbands were at the front, being left with the little children, to protect themselves as best they could against the wolves, which at that time often howled around the log cabins of the early settlers.

Note 28. Page 108.

"Not mine but thine, thou dull and fatuous House!"

In 1812 the House of Assembly of Upper Canada refused to suspend the Habeas Corpus Act, though urgently desired to do so by

General Brock. The Lower House roughly reflected the crude, isolated and unprotected condition of Upper Canada. Loyal at heart, it yet contained numbers of disaffected members, and others timid and hesitating, who allowed themselves to be swayed by the boasting and threats of aliens, domiciled in the Province for that very purpose. The invasion of General Hull engendered additional fears and despondency for a time; and the general procedure of the House was provoking to loyalists of bold and decisive temper.

Note 29. Page 127.

"How those giant pears

Loom with uplifted and high-ancient heads

Like forest trees! A hundred years ago

They, like their owner, had their roots in France."

The remarkable old French pear trees, once plentiful along the Detroit river, are now rapidly decaying. The annular rings of one blown down two years ago were found to number one hundred and seventy, so that it must have been planted by the French colonists who founded the settlement of Detroit under de la Mothe Cadillac; in 1701. They are of immense size, and are prodigious bearers; but, strange to say, cannot be propagated, and before many years will become extinct.

Note 30. Page 127.

"That hospitable roof

Of thine, thou good old Loyalist, Baby."

The interesting old Baby mansion, at Sandwich, is still standing. The Baby family (pronounced Baw-bee), which ever since the conquest has been distinguished for its loyalty to the British crown, is one of the most ancient in Canada. The owner of the Sandwich mansion, in 1812, was Colonel the Hon. James Baby, a son of the Baby who rendered such valuable assistance to Major Gladwyn during Pontiac's investment of Detroit in 1763. Colonel Baby was born at Detroit, in 1762. He was in the battle of the Thames, and was taken prisoner there by Harrison, who sent him to Chillicothe, in Ohio, where he was detained for many months. His hospitality and kindness of heart were as proverbial as his loyalty, and after many years of active public service, he died at York, now Toronto,

in 1833. In early life Colonel Baby was largely engaged in the fur trade—the engrossing occupation of that day—and in the hall of the mansion is still to be seen the hook from which the balance was suspended upon which the beaver-packs were weighed. The first room to the right of the hall was occupied by General Brock as his headquarters, and in it he wrote his demand for the surrender of Detroit. General Harrison subsequently made a similar use of the house, and in it have been successively entertained nearly all the Governors of Canada from an early date down to confederation.

Note 31. Page 128.

"Oh, have I eaten of the Spirit-plant!"

The wild carrot is called by the Indians *Manitou-q-ska-task*, or the Spirit-plant. It has intoxicating and deadly qualities.

Note 32. Page 145.

"Here are my pistols—take them from a friend."

Brock's presentation of his sash to Tecumseh is said by most writers to have taken place in Detroit. The late Honourable Francois Baby was present when the pistols were presented, and he is the authority for the latter incident, which is less generally known.

Note 33. Page 149.

"We heard the crash of battle yesterday."

The Battle of Lake Erie was fought near Put-in-Bay, on 10th September, 1813, and resulted in a victory for the Americans. The sounds of the engagement were distinctly heard at Amherstburg, sixty miles away.

Note 34. Pages 149 and 151.

"A fool who beats Sheaffe's folly at the game."

"Force him—

Who would not face yourself—to face five thousand!"

Squire Reynolds, commissary to H. M. forces at Amherstburg, during the war of 1812, in his narrative (see Colonel Coffin's Chronicle of the War), describes an altercation between Elliott and Proctor which resulted in a challenge. Proctor's responsible position as commander justified him in refusing to go out. The challenge arose

out of his half-hearted attack upon Fort Meigs, in April, 1813, and his disposition to retreat, which was strongly resented by Tecumseh. "Our father," said the latter, "has brought us here to take the fort; why don't we take it? If his children can't do it, give us spades, and we will work like beavers; we'll eat a way in for him." Proctor's vacillation and want of tact reacted in all directions. He was on bad terms, says Col. Coffin, with his own regiment, the 41st, of which he was Lieut.-Colonel. There was discord amongst the officers, and the men had lost confidence, and suffered besides from malarial fever induced by long-continued outpost duty and exposure. He treated the Canadian volunteer militia badly, says Reynolds. "When they saw his guns on skids (at Fort Meigs), and knew the siege was over, they sent respectfully to ask leave to go home, only to put in a crop for his men and their own children. He sent them home and disarmed them. He tried to disgrace them, but they would not be disgraced, because they knew they did not deserve it. Brock was another sort of man. He thought, and felt, and spoke for the men, and other men loved him, and fought for him, and died for him."

A reference to the massacre of prisoners by the Indians at the Raisin River and at old Fort Miami, which so greatly incensed the Americans against General Proctor, may be made here. After the surrender of General Winchester to Proctor in the affair at the former place, a rumour arose that Harrison was advancing rapidly with a large force. Proctor, alarmed at this, beat a needlessly precipitate retreat, leaving not only a number of wounded prisoners but his own wounded and dead. Some of the prisoners were murdered by loose and disorderly Indians who had got at liquor and were drunk, and are said not to have been in the action at all. At the Miami, or Fort Meigs affair, a similar scene was enacted after the capture of an escort, in which Proctor has been much blamed by Americans for non-interference, whilst Tecumseh has been as highly praised for putting an end to the massacre by braining one of the participants with his own axe. Cold-blooded deeds were common to both sides, however, at this period, though too many American historians attribute them solely to the Indians.

Note 35. Page 161.

"He comes! Yoheva! The Great Spirit comes!"

Ellen Russell Emerson, in her delightful collection entitled *Indian Myths*, extracts from *Archæologia Americana*, a description of the Indian ceremonial worship of the sun which suggested this scene. The book referred to is radiant with just thought, and the tender sympathies of a true woman.

Note 36. Page 163.

*"The night-sun set in cloud and curling mists
Hid the plumed star from sight."*

In the Algonquin dialects the moon is called *tipik-gheis*, or "the night-sun." The Evening Star is called, the "plumed star." It is also called "the woman's star." (See "Schoolcraft's Legend of Osseo.")

Note 37. Page 165.

*"Oh cherish her for she is dear to me
As is the Intercessor to your race."*

The Indian's Intercessor is Nanabush—the Guardian of the Sacred Fire. Nanabush is supposed to be a dialectic name for the Manabozho of the Ojibways, who is regarded, says Mr. Schoolcraft, "as the messenger of the Great Spirit sent down to them in the character of a wise man, and a prophet. But he comes clothed with all the attributes of humanity, as well as the power of performing miracles."

Note 38. Page 165.

*"Yes for his huskenaw—you call it that."
"Tis from the self-piece cut and quilled all o'er—
Your gathered edges show not half so well."*

Among the numerous nations who contributed support to Tecumseh's force were the Dahcotas or Sioux, of the Wisconsin and Upper Mississippi, numbers of whom were with him at the capture of Detroit and at the battle of the Thames. The Winona of this scene is a Dahcota girl, and her name is that invariably given by a Dahcota mother to her first-born daughter, viz., "the only one." The Dahcota mocassin is cut out of one piece; whereas the Delaware, or

Algonquin race, always make theirs with a piece let into the instep, the edges of the sole being turned up and drawn in around it. Some writers say the word Ojibway, frequently written Chippeway, is derived from the peculiar fashion of the mocassin, meaning "gathered;" but this is a mistake. The name Ojibway—*O-cheepo-way*—is given to the Indians of Lake Superior and the Red Lake region from their peculiar manner of dropping the voice toward the end of a sentence; *cheepo* meaning "tapering," and *way*, "sound, or voice."

Note 39. Page 167.

"*All gone! all gone! naught here but smoking ruins.*"

General Proctor burnt Fort Malden, the ship-yard, and the public stores before retreating from Amherstburg.

Note 40. Page 178.

"*Ah! this is our own tree.*"

One of the Indian names for the sugar maple is *nen-au-tick*, "our own tree."

With the exception of Tecumseh's protest to Proctor against his retreat from Amherstburg, but a few fragments of his speeches are extant. The author has thought it advisable to include a versified portion of the former in the 1st scene of Act V. The reader will recognize it in the passage beginning: "*Brother, my people are before you now!*" The author has made use of a few other equally well-known utterances of his historical characters, and has kept as close to history as dramatic exigencies would permit. Iena and Lefroy, he need scarcely say, are imaginary characters, though not without example in the history of this continent.