

wish, but sad reverses and losses compelled the President in the month of September, 1842, to make an assignment for the benefit of the creditors of the company, who, through his exertions, were all paid, although the capital stock, *three hundred thousand dollars* (of which he owned two-thirds), was swallowed up to liquidate the debts of the concern.

In 1845, Mr. Crooks opened a commission house for the sale of furs and skins in New York City. His well known integrity, irreproachable character, and great business qualifications, soon secured for him ample employment until the day of his death. He was a rare exception to the great mass of our mercantile citizens, being exceedingly plain and modest, yet polite and agreeable. He seemed, like all conscientious and reflective men, to be too humble for his position; the fear of intruding with his experience or opinions, upon any circle of friends, was a marked feature in the distinguished life of Ramsay Crooks; yet the remarkable gentleness of the venerable merchant, was a beautiful token of the carefulness of his education, and the faith he had in the rich rewards of Time.

As long as he was able, he delighted each summer to make an excursion to Lake Superior, and once more breathe its pure air and drink its pure waters, and talk over old times with a few old *voyageurs*, trappers and traders with whom he chanced to meet, and to hear some old Indian chief, whom he knew in former times, talk of former days; and everywhere his presence would be hailed with the most cordial welcome. He had a kind word for all. He sympathized with them in sorrow, and rejoiced with them in success, and manifested a feeling of sympathy and encouragement for every one.

Few Indian chiefs from the North-West ever came to New York, who did not hunt him out. He could speak the Chippewa, and we believe several other Indian dialects. In conversation he was remarkably intelligent and communicative, and delighted, in a social way, to relate his adventures in his rambles through the vast wilds he had traversed. His remarkable travels and sufferings in some of his trips between the lakes and the Pacific,