

hear the firing, and when I knocked at his door, and bid him get ready for a fight, he would not move until I threatened to break into his room; and, in loading his gun, he so shook with fear, that he broke his ram-rod. When we were all ready, I took the interpreter to the pickets, and had him call to the Indians, and say, that they need not send away their women and children, as they commenced doing, for we did not wish to kill *them*, but let the warriors to come on, if they desired to do so.

In an instant, the whole Indian camp was in motion, women screaming, children crying, dogs howling. Some of the Indians were in search of their guns, which their women had hid away before the spree began, lest in their drunken orgies they might kill one another. Every few minutes, I called out to them, inquiring if the women and children were gone, and if the warriors were ready for the fray. At length I discerned some one very cautiously approaching the fort; and on challenging him as to who he was, and what he wanted? He replied: "I am Red Whale; let me in. I want to take care of the whites." This was good news. I knew we were safe under his protection. He insisted on my releasing my prisoner, which I did, and all became quiet.

By ten o'clock the next morning, the would-be murderer invited all to a feast. On the receipt of his invitation, we all concluded that our end had come, and my companions were indisposed for the breakfast tendered. But we must show pluck; so placing my two pistols in my belt, I led the way; and, to our great relief, on reaching the door at the lodge, the pipe of peace was presented to us, which was a confession and atonement for the culprit's drunken folly. I always found, that to be truthful, honest and unflinching, where justice was demanded, invariably gained respect and confidence with all Indian tribes.

In two days the Indians were all gone, Mr. Wilmot and party had returned, our packs were made up, and our friend Dickson, from above the St. Anthony Falls, had arrived. A council of the partners was held, at which it was determined, as a quantity of goods remained over, to carry on a summer's trade for deer skins, and I was requested to take charge of the post, and conduct the