

fore, as we have already related. One of the fair Chippewas noticed it. "You are young to wear that," said she.

"I shall wear another before I am much older," he replied.

Certainly after so much friendly intercourse, and so many demonstrations of good will, no one could have suspected any sinister purpose. The Chippewas, too, might have relied on their proximity to the Fort. But "the heart of man is desperately wicked." The Dakotas had shook hands, and smoked the pipe of peace with their former foes, had eat of their fat, and drank of their *strong*. At last, at sun-set, they took their guns and rose to depart. The eight foremost halted outside the door, while the last held it aside with his foot, and all discharged their guns into the lodge, excepting one whose piece missed fire. The assassins gave the Indian *cri de joie*, and fled like deer.

The guns were heard in the Fort, and the news soon reached the commanding officer, who immediately ordered the officer¹ to proceed to the nearest village with an hundred men, and apprehend as many Dakotas as he possibly could. No time was to be lost, for the night was fast coming up the horizon! The Chippewas who were not hurt, joined the party. Circumstances proved favorable to the enterprise; just as the party left the gate, upwards of a hundred armed Dakotas appeared on a low ridge near the Fort. The Captain divided his force, and dispatched one party round the small wood to take the enemy in the rear, while he advanced upon them in front. The Dakotas kept their ground firmly. Some covered themselves with the scattered scrub oak trees; others laid down in the long grass. Guns were already cocked when the detached party appeared in their rear. Then the Indians gave way. Most escaped, but thirty were taken, and speedily conveyed to the Fort, where accommodations were provided for them in the guard-house and the black-hole. The Chippewas, too, re-

¹Mr. NEILL, in his *Hist. Minnesota*, p. 392, says Captain CLARK was the officer sent out on this service "early the next morning." This was Capt. NATHAN CLARK, of Connecticut, who entered the service as Second Lieutenant, in May, 1813, and after the war, was retained in the Fifth Infantry, rose to the rank of a Captain in 1824, and a brevet Major in 1834, and died at Fort Winnebago, Wisconsin, February 18th, 1836.