

merchandise; but it was in the way of trade, all fair, according to the Indian ethics, and we bear him no malice. He had not slept during the night, but had tramped up and down the floor deeply agitated, to the extreme disturbance of the soldiers. One of those who were put to death, was his nephew. When this young man was designated by the wounded Chippewas as one of the assassins, and led forth to suffer death, his tears flowed; and when he heard the report of the guns which ended him, his emotions became uncontrollable. He immediately sent for the commanding officer.

"Father," said he, "the band of the *Batture aux Fievres* are bad people. They are always getting themselves into trouble, and others are always sure to suffer with them. It was foolish to shoot the Chippewa last year, but they did it, and perhaps one of my grand-children will be scalped for it. What they have just done was a folly. They persuaded my nephew to join them, and he is dead. Let them take the consequences of their own act themselves this time. I know where I can find two more of them, and if you will let me out, I will bring them to you, and you may put them to death, as they deserve, or spare them—as you please. If you slay them, I shall be glad; if you let them go, I shall be sorry. They ought not to be suffered to bring the whole nation into disgrace and trouble."

"If the Colonel lets him out, I wonder when we shall see him again," said one of the guard to another.

The Colonel knew the Dakota character better. "How long," said he to Kho-ya-pa, "will it be before you return with the man-slayers?"

"By sun-set to-morrow night," replied the Eagle-Head, "I will be before your gate, and if I come alone, you may give my body to the Chippewas."

The sun was high in the heavens when the Eagle-Head departed, with his gun in his hand, and his knife and tomahawk in his belt. It is sixty miles from St. Peters to the *Batture aux Fievres*, and he arrived there early the next morning, having slept an hour or two in the woods near the village.