

THE FATE OF THE CAPTIVES.

The next day they started on their return of the Delaware towns. There they were met by a party of British and Indians, commanded by Colonel Caldwell, and accompanied by the two Girtys and McKee, who professed to be on their way to the fall to attack General Clark. They remained there two days. Brant, with the greater part of the Indians who had captured them, returned with Caldwell toward the Ohio. A few only remained to take charge of the prisoners and spoils. These they separated, and took to the towns to which that had been assigned. There they remained in captivity until the next year, which brought the Revolutionary war to a close.

After the preliminary articles were signed, on the 30th of November, 1782, they were ransomed by the British officers in command of the northern posts, to be exchanged for British prisoners, and sent to the St. Lawrence. A few of them had previously escaped, a few deserted from Montreal and the remainder, in the spring of 1783, sailed from Quebec to New York, and returned thence home by way of Philadelphia, having been absent twenty-two months. More than half of the number who left Westmoreland under Colonel Lochry never returned.