

63

bustle and confusion; and nothing was to be seen, in all directions, but weapons of war. Several Chiefs, from other districts, were assembled on account of the difference between Matabee & Moodoowhy, who were all eager to gain information of our object in coming to Shuleangka, and were much gratified when we told them; as they hoped, at some period, to see a ship in their river.

In about half an hour after our arrival, while talking with Moodoowhy and his friends, a sudden noise and tumult started up in the Village on the other side of the river. All flew to arms, threw off their mats, and rushed, like furies, into the river, in a moment, and Moodoowhy among them; leaving us, without stopping to tell us the cause. There was nothing to be heard or seen but noise and spears. We inquired the reason, and were told that a woman had been acting improperly. The Natives continued tearing & pulling each other about the hair of the <sup>heads</sup>, for about an hour, and some got a few blows.

After this business was settled, a Chief came to salute me with his bloody nose, having got part of the stick knocked off on the bustle. I laughed at him