

THE SAVAGE TOMAHAWK,

Which has so long furnished a subject for newspaper declamation, popular harrangue, and congressional eloquence, is at length found to be no "airy dagger" of the fancy, but a real, a serious and agonizing weapon of murderous destruction. The cold-blooded massacre of the wounded prisoners at the river Raisin, and dreadful scalping alive and the burning of them in the houses after their surrender, by the Indian allies of Britain, even in the presence of their white coadjutors, are facts too strongly proved to admit of doubt, and too shocking to humanity not to fill the mind with horror, execration and thirst for revenge. No rhetorical flourishes can magnify the terrors of the tomahawk and scalping-knife, and no American can refuse his sympathy to the feelings their barbarous use is calculated to excite. What the end of this species of warfare is to be, none can exactly predict. But if it is to continue unrestrained on the part of the enemy, and the wounded prisoners are to be subjected to indiscriminate slaughter by the savages of the wilderness, the consequence to them may be easily foreseen. The hand of vengeance must be raised against them, and a war of extermination waged, until they shall disappear from the borders of our extensive country. How far their British allies should be involved in this course of retributive justice, national policy will probably determine. But in any event, if it is not henceforward rigidly and scrupulously prevented, a scene of bloodshed rarely paralleled in modern history will characterise the war in which we are engaged. The United States may be compelled to employ Indians (of which ample numbers can be had at any moment) against the enemy; the spirit of the country will be roused; and the national foe, as weak in numbers as we are strong in unemployed resources, be made to feel the weight of an united people's anger, provoked by enormities of the most inexcusable nature and unjustifiable atrocity.