

and judging incalculable annoyance. Much has been written about the cruelties of the Indians in this war; but whatever these may have been, they can hardly have surpassed the performances of the civilized friends and foes of the Indians in this way. Much has been wrongly laid to Brant's charge, and it is well known that his authority saved many a captive from a too severe trial.

In the treaty of 1783, "notwithstanding the alacrity with which the aboriginals, especially the Mohawks, had entered the service of the Crown—notwithstanding their constancy, their valor, the readiness with which they had shed their blood, and the distinguished services of their great captain, Thayondamega (Brant), the loyal red man was not even named." (Ito c.) "The ancient country of the Six Nations, the residence of their ancestors from the time beyond their earliest traditions, was included in the boundaries granted to the Americans."

Deprived of their ancient home, all the fruits of their attempts at civilization gone, and with the worse part of their nature brought once more into thorough activity by seven years of most cruel war, the Six Nations went to the beautiful wilderness granted them instead of the rich and lovely land they had lost, to begin again their uphill road of progress. They received a grant of land on the Grand River, from its mouth to its source, twelve miles wide. This grant Brant believed to be in fee simple; and when he found that his people had no power to sell their land, and that it was only theirs for purposes of occupation and tillage, he addressed numerous remonstrances to the home and colonial authorities. The tenure of Indian lands, however, remains the same to this day. Brant's reason for wishing to sell portions of the Grand River grant seems to have been that he perceived it to be more extensive than was necessary to support his people by agriculture, to which he was most desirous of bringing them, though small as a hunting ground. By offering lands for sale he hoped to attract white settlers to his borders, and thus afford the Indians greater opportunities of acquiring the arts of civilized life. These views have been expressed by other wise and patriotic chiefs.

Until the time of his death (1807) Brant continued to labor hard and wisely for the advancement of his people. In 1812 the Six Nations again joined the British, under young Brant, who had succeeded his father in the chieftainship, and who, at the age of eighteen, proved his capacity as a warrior by conducting the surprise and capture of Colonel Beerstler and two hundred men at Beaver Dams.

The Iroquois are now scattered over the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, as in the following table, compiled from Government reports. It will be seen that their numbers have for some time past been steadily increasing:—

BANDS.	Population, 1853.	Population, 1838.	Extent of Reserves, Acres.
Iroquois, of Sault St. Louis	1,342	1,601	30,000
“ St. Regis	685	81	33,000
“ Lake of Two Mountains	442 (?)	442 (?)	32,000—(in common
Six Nations, Grand River	2,550	2,796	52,133 with Algon-
Oncidas, of the Thames	523	52) ?	5,400 quins.)
Mohawks, Bay of Quinte	568	683	10,700
Total	6,116	6,852	163,233

The Iroquois of Canada are now almost wholly engaged in agriculture and other pursuits of civilization. Agriculture and temperance societies flourish among them. The schools are satisfactorily attended. They are very far from showing any inferiority in intelligence in the affairs of life. Of the Indians in general we read, in the report for 1868 of the Honorable the Secretary of State: "The experience which I have gained since I took in hand the superintendence of the affairs of the Indians has convinced me that the time has come for facilitating the enfranchisement of a great number of these Indians who, by their education and knowledge of business, their intelligence and their good conduct, are as well qualified as the white to enjoy civil rights, and to be released from a state of tutelage." The remarks apply, perhaps, more largely to the Iroquois than to other Indians.

The Hurons of Lake St. Lawrence are now the only descendants in Canada of the great nation which once disputed the rule of the St. Lawrence with their kindred people, the Iroquois. They number many good hunters among them, but are, perhaps, better known as excellent makers of awl-slices, moccasins, and ornamental work. According to the census of 1838 the population of the village was 237.

There can be little doubt that had the time which has elapsed since the settlement of the North American colonies been passed by the Iroquois nations in a state of peace, and under better influences, they would have rapidly adopted our civilization. Some have thought that had they been left to themselves they would, by incorporating other tribes with their own confederacy, have founded an empire and built up a civilization of their own. "L'indien n'était pas sauvage; la civilisation Européenne n'a point agi sur lui par état de nature; elle a agi sur la civilisation Américaine commerçante."—(Chateaubriand) Chateaubriand thought that had Europeans not discovered America an Iroquois fleet might one day have discovered Europe.

The Iroquois language is at once sonorous and musical, full of nasals and gutturals and strong aspirations, but also of melodious modulations of vowel sounds. Its grammar is of extreme difficulty, the sense depending largely upon the proper employment of particles, of emphasis, and of terminal changes. The mouth is kept slightly open in speaking, and the lips hardly moved, the only consonants in the language being *h, k, n, r, s, t, and w*. Like other Indian tongues the Iroquois affords great facilities for the purposes of the orator.

THE ALGONQUINS.—At the time of the discovery of America, the various tribes of the Algonquin stock occupied the Atlantic coast from Virginia to the St. Lawrence, and extended