

less numerous and inferior body are the Milicetes, who speak a dialect of the Huron language, and frequent the River St. John and its tributary waters. The Micmacs are strongly attached to the sea-side, near which they are generally found; hence the Milicetes call them "salt-water Indians." The Milicetes, on the contrary, have great aversion to salt water; they are thorough woodsmen, and confine themselves to the lakes and streams of the interior, for navigating which their light canoes are well adapted.

An enumeration of the Indians of the Province was made by the writer in 1841, when it was found that their numbers stood thus:—Of Micmacs; adults—males, 229; females, 255; under 14—boys, 215; girls, 236; total, 935. Of Milicetes; adults, males, 111; females, 113; under 14—boys, 107; girls, 111; total, 442. The whole number of Indians in the Province in 1841, was, therefore, 1377: By the census of 1851, it appears that the numbers then found amounted to 1116 only; and there is reason to believe, from enquiries recently made, that their numbers do not now reach 1000. That they are steadily decreasing, is beyond a doubt; and this, in a great degree, is owing to the ravages made among their adults by small pox and typhus fever, and among children, by measles, hooping cough, scarlet fever, and other diseases to which children are subject. Very few submit to be vaccinated, and hence small pox is their great scourge. Their unwillingness to undergo regular medical treatment is the reason why diseases are fatal among them, and not so to persons of European descent.

The Micmacs subsist during the summer chiefly by fishing and fowling; during winter many of them find employment with lumbermen in the forest. On the Miramichi and Richibucto rivers, several Micmac families have turned their attention to the cultivation of the soil, and have comfortable houses, with some stock. The Milicetes hunt and trap during the winter; in summer they make baskets and other light articles, varying their labour with fishing and shooting. The people of both tribes live on the most friendly terms with their white neighbours; and they are often engaged by sportsmen as their attendants on excursions along the