

When his children had died of consumption, an old lady friend, who had known Red Jacket from his youth, expressed her sympathy for him. Fixing his black eyes upon the face of the lady, he replied :

“ Red Jacket was once a great man and in favour with the Great Spirit. He was a lofty pine among the smaller trees of the forest. But after years of glory he degraded himself by drinking the fire-water of the white man. The Great Spirit has looked upon him in anger, and His lightning has stripped the pine of its branches.”

The condition of the chief became so degraded because of his intemperate habits that at a Council of the Senecas, called for that purpose in September, 1827, he was formally deposed from his chieftaincy. As stated elsewhere, the first three names attached to this extraordinary document were those of Red Jacket's former partisans—Young King, Captain Pollard, and Little Billy.

This indignity roused in the tottering old man all the fire and eloquence of his greatest days. In an appeal to the Council he swept everything before him, and he was restored to his former rank by a unanimous vote. This was the greatest of his many signal triumphs, and as an orator stamped him as “ The Last of the Senecas.”

The monument erected over his remains bears the following inscription :