

Iroquois territory, several of these in southwestern Ontario. Stone and flint implements suggesting use as hoes or spades have been found all over the alluvial lands on the Mississippi and its tributaries, as well as in the Iroquois country. The form most widely distributed is an oval or elliptical outline, with rounded or pointed ends, some being notched for attachment to a handle, which may have been fastened on either parallel with the longer axis, or at an angle to it.¹

Shell was evidently not favoured by the Iroquois as a material for hoes, though it was so employed by surrounding nations.² An Onondaga name for the latter implement is atcokdo"sää'.

A wooden digging-stick or spade, che'di'akta', is said to have been used as recently as sixty years ago. A model of this was constructed by an Onondaga informant.³ A notch at one side afforded a place for the foot in digging. The implement was made of hardwood, such as white oak, ironwood, or hickory (Plate I, fig. a).

Special articles for carrying the seed-grain are practically non-existent at present, although the informant last mentioned remembered a flat-shaped planting-basket, with compartments for corn and the bean or squash seeds which are planted with it. This was carried in the hand, or was tied to the belt (Plate I, fig. c). The name applied was eyentwa'tha' ga'a"sää' (On.). The information was confirmed by other informants.⁴ An ordinary small basket is often used at present.

A couple of types of elm bark planting basket are noted by A. C. Parker.⁵ Bruyas records the term "assenonte," which signifies "a small sack which the women attach to the belt and in which is their grain for sowing."⁶ Both the latter references suggest that splint basketry was less extensively used in the earlier days than at present.

¹ *Handbook of American Indians*, p. 555.

² Wintenberg, W. J., *The Use of Shell by the Ontario Indians*, Ont. Arch. Rep., 1907, p. 38.

³ Peter John, Grand River reserve.

⁴ Mrs. Maggie Hill (Ca.), and John Jamieson, jun., (Ca.), Grand River reserve.

⁵ Parker, A. C., *N. Y. State Museum Bulletin 144*, plate 19.

⁶ Bruyas, *Radices Verborum Iroquaeorum*.