

and ruthless war we read of in the annals of Indian warfare. A war in which vengeance was fanned and kept burning by religious fanaticism. The council fires of the Neutral Confederacy, in accordance with the judgment of the Onondagos (the Senate of the five nations), were extinguished and their name obliterated from the number of the tribes. The place where they once dwelt in womanly power knew them no more. The Sacred Lodge of the Mother of Nations was demolished and the tribes of the Confederacy left with no monument to carry their name and memory to distant ages, save the name of the waters of Erie.

The Indian towns at Medad, Tuscarora ; the Southwold excavations, and the records of the cities of Buffalo and Detroit, mark these places as important centres or supposed " Cities of Refuge " of North America ; and, no doubt, if excavations had been made before the War of 1812-15 at Burlington Heights, now the city of our dead, still more valuable data would have been discovered regarding them.

Most interesting ossuaries, or " bone pits," have been found on Burlington Beach, which taken into connection with the large number of burial mounds and cairns found at the foot of what is now known as Emerald street, seem to point to the scene of some ancient battle.

Indian tradition states that the heights and shores of our bay, stretching over the Beach, gave the site to the final battle fought between the Neutrals and the Romans of the New World. To this day, the mention of Burlington Heights to some of the old chiefs on the Grand River Reserve (the Six Nations) brings the same gleam to the eye and expression to the carriage as the word " Waterloo," or " Trafalgar," gives to a loyal Briton.

Chateaubriande, Drake, Colden, and many other authorities, write confirmatory of the following :

" A very remarkable feature in Iroquois' politics was the " power exercised by the women. Every family sent a member " to the council of deputies or supreme council of the Six Nations, " who was chosen by the women to represent them. Thus the " chief elective power lay in the hands of the women. To the " women was conceded the right, in all things pertaining to the " welfare of their homes, of reversing the decree of the supreme