

The termination *o-nah* signifying "inhabitants," is nearly identical with the *ronons* or *rhonons* of the Hurons, and has the same signification.

The Mohawks use the terminations *ronnon* and *haga*, which correspond with the similar words used by the Senecas. Bruyas' Dictionary, p. 18.

In the vocabulary of the Huron or Wyandot language, as given by Mr. Gallatin, Coll. Am. Ant. Society, Vol. II, pp. 334 and 348, the Huron word for hill is given as *onontah*, and for great, *ouen*. If compounded, they would form *Onontaouen* or great hill, which is only a dialectical variation from the Seneca *Nan-do-wah*, and embraces such a resemblance as we would expect from the common origin of the two nations.

In pronouncing the Indian names written by the Jesuits, the French vowel and nasal sounds must be regarded. The French, having no "w," express its sound by the combination "ou." In writing Indian words the letters *d* and *t* are often used interchangeably.

If the name Seneca can legitimately be derived from the Seneca word *Nan-do-wah-gaah* as above given, it can only be done by prefixing *Son*, as was the custom of the Jesuits, and dropping all unnecessary letters. It would then form the word *Son-non-do-wa-ga*, the first two and last syllable of which, if the French sounds of the letters are given, are almost identical in pronunciation with *Seneca*. The chief difficulty, however, would be in the disposal of the two superfluous syllables. They may have been dropped in the process of contraction so common in the composition of Indian words—a result which would be quite likely to occur to a Seneca name, in its transmission through two other languages, the Mohawk and the Dutch.

The foregoing queries and suggestions are thrown out for what they are worth, in the absence of any more reliable theory. It is to be hoped that a happy solution of the vexed question may yet be reached by some investigator having the necessary facilities and qualifications.