

ing in 1796 amongst the Chippewas at Malden. Christianity has greatly bettered the state of affairs, and few instances have occurred of late years; but even as recently as 1855 Dr. Hodder stated that abortion was frequently practised amongst the Rice Lake Indians.

The Mississaguas were preëminently a hunting and a fishing tribe. The valleys of the Credit or *Mahzenahgaseebie* (*i. e.*, the river where credit is given; it was a meeting-place for the Indians and the traders, and the latter advanced to the former goods a year ahead, trusting to their honesty for the next season's furs; hence the name), the Thames (*Ashkahmahseebee*, Horn River), the *Otonabee* (mouth-water), the Moira (*Saganashcocon*), with the series of inland lakes between Lake Simcoe and the Bay of Quinté formed their chief hunting and fishing grounds. *Muskoka* district, river, and lake commemorate the name of a Mississagua chief, as does *Stoco* Lake in the valley of the Moira. Lake Erie (*Wahbeshkegookeche-game*, the white water lake) they visited for the sake of its fish, strayed down the Thames to Lake St. Clair (*Wahwehyahtahnoohing*, the round lake), and occasionally travelled into New York State, leaving their offerings of tobacco beside the cataract of Niagara (*Kahkajewang*, the waterfalls).

The Indians at Rice Lake used to shoot by night (in canoes with torches) the deer (*wawasque*) that came to feed on the rice-beds. They also hunted the deer with hounds obtained from the settlers.

The Indians of Chemong Lake were accustomed to "bark" squirrels (*atchitamon*); *i. e.*, to make the bullet strike the tree just under the animal, so that the splinters of bark killed it without injuring fur or flesh. The muskrat (*ozasgue*), beaver (*amic*), and other animals they caught by setting traps.

The usual method of capturing the salmon (*azaouamec*) was by spearing, and in the use of the fish-spear the Mississaguas were exceedingly skilful. Other kinds of fish also were taken by the spear, both by day and night. The mouth of the river Credit was a celebrated place for spearing salmon, and on its banks the Indians annually camped for that purpose.

In the winter the Indians of Rice and Mud (or Chemong) lakes obtained fish in the following manner: With his tomahawk the Indian cut a hole in the ice, threw a blanket over him, and stood or knelt for hours beside the hole. In one hand he held his fish-spear, in the other a string, to which was attached a decoy-fish of wood, serving to attract the prey. Their skill in this sort of fishing was remarkable, two hundred pounds of fish being frequently the reward of a day's labor.

With the Rice Lake Indians a common device in duck-shooting was to pile up green brushwood in a canoe, so that it resembled a