

Father of Waters were, of course later achievements. Galinée's Map shows, opposite Brantford and somewhat up the River, the sites of four former Neutral Villages, with extensive hunting-grounds stretching westerly.

PORTAGES.

Subsequent maps and memoirs refer to well known portage routes through this district from Burlington Bay to the Thames River, and to Lake Erie. In the immediate neighborhood of the site of Brantford, long prior to the introduction of white settlers, great trunk roads existed, which were well known highways of travel and transportation as familiar to the native hunters, warriors and traders as are the great main lines of railway to the Canadians of to-day. Trails leading to native towns and villages tapped these main highways at convenient points. General John S. Clark of Auburn is the leading authority upon the location of these trails and of ancient village sites, whether in Ontario or the State of New York.

IROQUOIS AND OJIBWAYS.

The destruction of the neutral villages by the Iroquois in the middle of the 17th century was followed shortly afterward by incursions of the Ojibways from the upper lakes and by encounters between them and the Senecas. The conflict was terminated by a treaty of peace whereby the contesting races recognized each other as brothers. The old Neutral country was surrendered to the Iroquois as hunting grounds, and the old time friendship was permanently renewed. In the course of time the Iroquois appear to have withdrawn from the province over which thereafter for a hundred years the Mississagas roamed as, in a certain sense, its occupants. The survivors of the Neutral nation had, in accordance with the fixed policy of the Iroquois confederacy been incorporated with the nearest tribe, the Senecas, and their descendants are perhaps with us at this gathering.

THAYENDENAGEA AND THE SIX NATIONS.

At the close of the Revolutionary war in 1783, the Mohawks who under Thayendenagea had sided with the British, were called upon to decide whether they should remove to the north of the St. Lawrence where lands were set apart for them by the King, or to the valley of the Genesee, where the Senecas invited them to settle. The loyal allies of the British did not hesitate long. In the words of Captain Brant,