TRANSACTIONS

(1) The village plot is subdivided into small lots. Each family is entitled to an area sufficient for a house, besides a width of 30 feet in front and 3 feet at the back of that house.

(2) The Common was originally, as indicated by its French name "Clos des Cochons," a pasture for hogs. It still continues to be owned in common by the Huron community, but is now used almost entirely as a hide-dressing ground by Mr. Bastien, who has erected thereon sheds and drying scaffolds.

(3) The 1600 arpents Reserve also remains undivided. It was granted to the Hurons that they might obtain from it their annual supplies of fuel. The greater part is still woods. Six or seven families, as we have seen, have taken up their abode there as farmers, but the farming is of such a primitive character, that it has not been found necessary to trace any boundaries between the various farms.

(4) As for the Rocmont Reserve, it is wholly a distant mountainous forest tract, provided in recent times by the Canadian Government for the support of the Hurons, but neither occupied nor worked by them. However, they derive a small revenue from it, the cut of pine and spruce being leased out every year to lumbermen, and the proceeds paid over to the band in the form of allowances.

It should be observed that all of this property is held *in common* by the Hurons. With them private ownership of land does not exist. Neither have they any desire, as far as I could ascertain, to individually own land. I know only of one Huron to-day who holds privately some land—and not in the Reserve, but adjoining it. In the past as well, cases of private ownership have been exceedingly rare.

In connection, then, with the system of property of the Hurons, what strikes most the social observer, is, on the one • hand, the limitation and sparseness of their holdings at Lorette, their place of abode; and, on the other hand, the absence of private ownership of land.

At Caughnawaga, things are in a different way. At an earlier date than the Hurons, the Iroquois had to forsake the chase and to take earnestly to agriculture. As a result, they acquired the notion of property, the desire to have, and the aptness to hold, land collectively, or even privately.

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