

tongue in the name of the whole, and interpreted by Louis Vincent, after a complimentary speech, and expressing the failure of their endeavours to obtain their Lands and their reduced condition,) answered, Yes; and produced a Paper endorsed "Titles relative to the Fief of Sylleri, claimed by the Indians of Lorette 1798;" together with a statement of dates signed "Louis Vincent," and also a certified Copy, signed "Herman Witsius Ryland," of an opinion or report to His Excellency Robert Prescott, Esquire, Captain General and Governor in Chief, by Mr. Attorney General Sewell, dated 3d August 1797.

Q. What knowledge have you of your being the descendants of the Christian Indians formerly established at Sylleri?

A. (Delivered and Interpreted as before.)

Our Ancestors could not write: we have no books; we have it by tradition. In times of old our Chiefs assembled the Nation to hear from its Chiefs the History of the Nation: we follow the same customs and relate to our Children the affairs of our Nation within our own times. The old Chiefs relate what they know of old times. We have it by tradition, that our forefathers came by invitation to Sylleri from the Lakes above.—They were followed by other Tribe to enjoy a Grant of Land from the King of France, after a lapse of time, they were moved back from Sylleri to the Côte St. Michel, (Ste. Foi,) from thence to *Ancienne Lorette*, and thence to our present residence; they wanted us to go to Nicolet which was refused by the Chiefs in Council, because we stood upon our own Land.

Q. Is it regularly related, that you are the descendants of the Indians who were Settled at Sillery, and that the Lands you claim belong to you?

A. Yes.

Q. Is the Paper given in signed "Louis Vincent," containing the dates of the Settlement at *Vieille Lorette*, the Settlement at Jeune Lorette, (1697,) the building of the Church, (1730,) the building of the Mill, (1731,) and the Petition to Lord Dorchester, (1791,) conformable to your national traditions?

A. Yes.

Q. Is the whole Council present?

A. Yes, excepting one who is out hunting, Gabriel Vincent, (Wawondrohnin)

Q. How is the Council appointed?

A. (Spoken and Interpreted as before.)

This is the way, Brothers; when a Chief dies the Council names another and announces him to the assembled Tribe; but when