

of Albany, smoth, accurate, uniform, three purple or six white for one penny, or much more than this equivalent in beaver skins.

Also there were all kinds of precious stuffs in this wonderful pack: Strouds and duffles, blankets and Indian stockings, Penniston shoes and belts with shining buckles, and others whose names are still more unfamiliar to the modern ear. Also knives and scissors, awls and needles, and in limited numbers Gres de Flanders wares and Fulham jugs.

All these things came to the Mohawk when he was blustering with new strength and swelling with pride, and they made him still stronger and more ready and able to follow his favorite way, the warpath. But there were three other things that the trader brought to the Indian, which while they for a little time added to his power, in the end proved his ruin—guns, steel trap; and rum. With the steel trap he could fill the long houses of his village with furs, with furs he could buy guns, and with rum added to his natural ferocity, he was ready for all the atrocities that could enter into the imagination to conceive. All these things and many more the Dutch trader brought up the Mohawk in canoes, made as the Mohawks made them of elm bark, or at a very early period, in batteaus.

Coming thus at any time after the little settlement of Albany began, he would see the first village perched like an eagle's nest on the crest of a commanding hill, where now the Jesuit shrine of "Our Lady of Martyrs" marks the spot where their early brethren suffered such cruel mockings and torture and death. This was Osseruenon—of the French—the Assarue of the Dutch.

Going westward a few leagues the trader would come to Andagoron, the village of the bear clan; and still further up the river, on a high and sightly elevation, he would come to Teononlogon, the great village of the turtle clan, looking down upon the plain where now lies the quiet little hamlet of Sprakers Basin. All palisaded, all swarming with savage life and industries.

From these far away strongholds, bands of fierce warriors armed with guns and axes and scalping knives, as well as with the still lingering bow and arrow, fared forth by the devious paths of the wilderness, and infested all New France, from Montreal to Quebec. They had bided their time in patience, and now their day of blood had come.