

where there are very good lands; the Mohawks have agreed with these thirty families to go and settle their village at this place, whither a missionary will accompany them. This change, which will cost the King only the erection of a saw-mill that will furnish abundantly wherewith to build the cabins, becomes very advantageous to the colony in as far as it will be easy in time of war to be informed of all that might occur in the direction of Choueguen; besides, La Presentation and this new village on Lake St. Louis and the Lake of the Two Mountains will form a barrier which will protect the Government of Montreal against all incursions, because in that weak quarter the troops that might be sent thither will be always supported by these Indians," etc.

The Mohawks referred to in this letter were doubtless those of that tribe who were living in English territory but had gone over to the French. There is a tradition amongst the early settlers that the Indians all came from Albany with Sir Wm. Johnson's army, but whether they came then or earlier I cannot determine. As to those from Caughnawaga or Sault St. Louis there is seemingly no doubt.

In the Haldimand Collection, now in the Archives at Ottawa, and in Vol. B. 114, p. 307, there is a memorandum from Col. Claus to General Haldimand, which is as follows:

"Memorandum of what I can recollect relative to the settlement of St. Regis by the Indians that emigrated from Sault St. Louis:

"Père Gordan, of the Order of the Jesuits, was the promoter of that settlement at the commencement of the war in 1755, the occasion, as he told me, was that on account of the approaching war such a continual drunkenness prevailed among the Caughnawagez Indians that mission became of little use, when he proposed to the sober and well thinking Indians to remove out of the way of liquor as the only remedy against debauch, and accordingly prevailed