

No echo is given off from the ceiling, for this is also within the limit of perceptibility, while it assists the hearing in the gallery by the reflection to that place of the oblique rays.

The architecture of this room is due to Captain Alexander, of the corps of topographical engineers. He fully appreciated all the principles of sound given by Professor Henry, as detailed in the former paper on "Acoustics applied to Public Buildings," and varied his plans until all the required conditions, as far as possible, were fulfilled.

LEGENDS AND TRADITIONS OF THE ODAHWAH INDIANS.

BY F. ASSIKINACK, A WARRIOR OF THE ODAHWAHS.*

Read before the Canadian Institute, December, 1857.

As it is my purpose to relate some Indian traditions, and make a few general observations concerning the Indian race of America, it may be proper to state that the Odahwah Indians are the tribe to which I myself belong. Some members of this tribe now reside on the Manitoulin Island in Lake Huron; others on the shores of Lake Michigan, in the State of the same name. The Odahwah settlement in that State is about forty miles in a south-westerly direction from the strait of Michinimakinang, which unites Lakes Michigan and Huron. That territory was wrested from the Mushkodensh tribe by the Odahwahs some two hundred and fifty years ago, and held by them until it was surrendered to the American government so recently

* Francis Assikinack, the author of this paper, is a full-blood Indian, and a son of one of the Chiefs of the Odahwahs,—or Ottawas, as they are more generally designated,—now settled on the Manitoulin Island in Lake Huron. In 1840, he was sent, at the age of sixteen, to Upper Canada College, Toronto, by the late Samuel P. Jarvis, Esq., then Superintendent-General of Indian affairs. At that time he was totally ignorant of the English language, and after being about three months at the above institution, he got one of the boys (now the Rev. G. A. Anderson of Tayeudinaga,) to interpret for him, and solicit permission to return home, as he thought he could never learn the English language. Fortunately his desire was not complied with, and he remained long enough at Upper Canada College, not only to acquire such a command of the English language as is evinced by this communication on the Legends and Traditions of his Tribe, but also to obtain a familiar knowledge of Latin and Greek. F. Assikinack now fills the office of Interpreter in the Indian Department at Cobourg. So creditable and satisfactory a result of an experiment which at first seemed so hopeless, ought surely to encourage its repetition, and that on a much more extended scale.