

the vicinity of Lake Simcoe. They were variously recorded in history or tradition as numbering from ten to twenty thousand souls and were certainly of a higher type than other savage races of their time. In many respects the Huron and Iroquois were alike and in fact were related in the tribal sense. The nature of their dwelling-houses, their stockaded villages and cultivated lands, their habits of permanent settlement, were very similar; as were many of their manners, customs and superstitions. From 1609, for nearly eighty years, they remained deadly rivals and then the weaker disappeared from view. Meanwhile, however, many pages of history had to be written in deeds of struggle and slaughter before that time came, although the steady progress of the Iroquois is always noticeable.

The Neutral Nation, living along the north shore of Lake Erie and striving for a while to remain friends with both the rival tribes; the Andastes, dwelling in fortified villages in the far valley of the Susquehanna; the Eries, living in the vicinity of the lake which bears their name; were all of kin to the Iroquois and were all conquered and practically destroyed by that ambitious federation of savages. Then came the conquest of the Delawares, or Lenapes, and the expulsion of the Ottawas from the vicinity of the great river which now runs past the capital of Canada. Fortunately for the future of the white people, though unfortunately for a certain barbaric civilization which might in time have been evolved, the Five Nations had forgotten the teachings of Hiawatha and, while sensible of the benefits which came from their own union, did not grasp the ideal which might have extended that union until it included all the Indian tribes and evolved a force which might have swept the French into the St. Lawrence. A glimmer of this idea was apparent in the admission of the Tuscaroras when final success had become impossible; a despairing perception of it came fifty years latter to a natural