

PREFACE

IN presenting this volume to the public, the writer has three objects in view. First, to give a concise description of the character of the aborigines of British North America; their superiority over many other pagan nations in intellect, oratory, and generosity. Also, their increasing desires, when brought under the influence of civilization, to abandon the wandering habits of the savage, and become agriculturists and citizens, and cultivate habits of industry and frugality.

In the second place, to show that the Indians of Canada are not in this respect aided or encouraged by the Indian Department, or the Canadian Government, in the way they should be, by being allowed to settle on their own land, as freeholders; of which privilege they have not only been deprived, but their lands have been taken from them, and their just rights withheld.

And, in the third place, to elicit the sympathy of a Christian public, by making the facts of the case generally known, hoping thereby to influence the Colonial Government to redress the grievances of which the Indians of Canada so justly complain; and in this, they only ask for justice, not charity.

In order to show clearly the necessity of the present appeal to a Christian public, the fate of Chief David Sawyer, as an individual instance, is selected as a substantial representation of many other similar cases that exist.

The startling facts that the Indians are absolutely deprived of their rights, and robbed of their