

**OUR FOREST CHILDREN,**PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF
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THOSE WHO WILL INTEREST THEMSELVES IN THE WORK.

The Indian Tribes.*Paper No. 2.*

THE OJIBWAY INDIANS.

THE Ojibway Indians, or as they are often called, Chippewas or Chippeways, are about 30,500 in number, and occupy a wide circle, of which Lake Superior is the centre. In the United States there are about 16,300, and in Canada 14,200. Those in the States are to be found in Michigan, Minnesota and Dakota, and a few in Kansas. In Canada they border the Northern and Eastern shores of Lake Huron and Lake Superior, and thence extend Northward towards Hudson Bay and Lake Winnipeg, where they meet their neighbors the Knisteneaux or Crees. There are a number of other tribes, many of them large, important ones, related to the Ojibways, and speaking different dialects of what was probably at one time their common language. These tribes to which we allude, are described by ethnologists as belonging to the Algonkin stock. The Algonkin stock embraces, so far as we have yet learned, the Ojibways, Crees, Saulteaux, Ottawas, Pottawatamies, Mississagas, Minominees, Osahgees and Shawanoes. Probably from the same

stock have sprung also the Kickapoos, Cheyennes and the Blackfeet.

The Ojibways, as a people, are very fairly advanced in regard to civilization and education. In Canada there are at least two ministers of the Church of England belonging to that tribe, the Rev. H. P. Chase at Sarnia and the Rev. John Jacobs in Walpole Island; and among the Methodists are the Rev. Allan Salt of Parry Island, and we believe one or two others. In the United States a great work has been done among these people by the well-known Bishop Whipple of Minnesota, who has, if we mistake not, eleven of that nation ordained as ministers of the Episcopal Church.

A large number of these people are now making their living by farming. Many of them in the neighborhood of Sarnia and Walpole Island have good farms, farm houses and apple orchards, and use reapers, thrashing machines and other modern improvements. They have agricultural shows among themselves, which are largely patronized by the whites. Ojibways all inhabit bush land; none of them, as far as we know, live on the prairies. Up North of Lake Superior and Westward into Manitoba it is natural to find them retaining more of their primitive habits. In those regions they may still be seen paddling about in their birch bark canoes and making their living by hunting and fishing. Most of them, however, wear European dress. It is the exception to find any of them dressing in skins or wearing their hair long or painting their faces.

Where they are settled in villages they usually build log houses about 25 feet long by 18 or 20 feet wide.