

short distance of the town of Brantford (sixty miles above Dunnville), where a canal, three miles in length, and with three locks, to overcome an ascent in the river of thirty-three feet, has been constructed to enable vessels to reach the town. In order to render the river navigable above Dunnville, five locks have been built, to overcome an ascent of forty-three feet. There are several grist and saw mills, and other machinery on the river, both above and below Brantford. The damming of the river in order to supply the Welland Canal, has caused it to overflow much of the low land near its mouth.

At the termination of the war of Independence, the Six Nations Indians of the Mohawk valley, who had taken part with the British against the Americans, became apprehensive that consequences injurious to themselves might result from their hunting grounds being within the territory belonging to the United States. They accordingly deputed their chief, Joseph Brant, (Tyendenaga) to represent their fears to General, afterwards Sir F. Haldimand, who was then Governor of the Province of Quebec; and who, in the following year, by a proclamation, dated October 25, 1784, granted to the Six Nations and their heirs for ever, a tract of land on the Ouse, or Grand River, six miles in depth on each side of the river, beginning at Lake Erie, and extending to the head of the river. This grant was confirmed, and its conditions defined, by a patent under the Great Seal, issued by Lieutenant Governor Simcoe, and bearing date January 14, 1793.

The original extent of the tract was 694,910 acres, but the greater part of this has been since surrendered to the Crown, in trust, to be sold for the benefit of these tribes. And some smaller portions have been either granted *in fee simple* to purchasers, with the assent of the Indians, or have been alienated by the chiefs upon leases; which, although legally invalid, the government did not at the time consider it equitable or expedient to cancel. The following is a list of the principal surrenders:

*January 15, and February 6, 1798.*—The lands now forming the townships of Dumfries, Waterloo, Woolwich, and Nichol, extending downwards on both sides of the river from the northern extremity of the reserve; and the greater part of the townships of Canboro' and Moulton, on the eastern side of the entrance of the Grand River—352,707 acres.

*April 19, 1830.*—The site of the town of Brantford, on the Grand River—807 acres.

*April 19, 1831.*—The northern part of the present township of Cayuga, on the lower part of the river—20,670 acres.

*February 8, 1834.*—The residue of Cayuga, the present township of Dunn, (which adjoins that of Cayuga), and part of Canboro' and Moulton—50,212 acres.

*March 26, 1835.*—A confirmation of all the preceding surrenders.

*January 18, 1841.*—The residue of the land, with the exception of a reserve of 20,000 acres, and the lands actually in the occupation of Indians, amounting to upwards of 220,000 acres.

Of the earlier surrenders, the greater portion has been already sold, and the proceeds have been invested either in consols in England, or in the Grand River navigation stock. The survey of the portion last surrendered is not complete, but a considerable part is already occupied by settlers or squatters, and the whole will probably be soon settled.

The Six Nations consist properly of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Senecas, Onondagas, and Cayugas, which formed the original confederacy of the "Five Nations," called Iroquois, by the French, with the Tuscaroraras, who were adopted into the confederacy. But the community on the Grand River includes also a few Delawares, Tutulies, Muntures, Nanticokes, and some other Indians, together with a few families of Negroes, adopted into the nation. The number of the whole, according to a census taken in 1843, is 2223. They are settled in small bands, divided according to their tribes, or collected under separate chiefs,