

prepare the food; their duties and positions are those of slaves, laborers and beasts of burden. The pursuits of hunting and war belong to the men." The writer continues by pointing out that under such conditions it was impossible to bring forth fully-developed children, or to nourish them properly after they were born. Abortions were frequent and infant mortality such that hardly one in thirty survived.¹ Adair writes of the Muskogean tribes, close neighbours of the Cherokee and Tuscarora, that "the women are the chief, if not the only manufacturers; the men judge that if they perform that office, it would exceedingly depreciate them."

Carr refers to the Iroquois as the only people among whom "it cannot be shown that the warriors did take some part either in clearing the ground or in cultivating the crop; and we find that even among them the work was not left exclusively to the women, but that it was shared by the children and the old men, as well as the slaves, of whom they seem to have had a goodly number." He also mentions the almost constant occupation of the men in hunting and fighting. He elsewhere remarks of the Indians of this area in general that "whilst, as a fact, the women, children, old men, and slaves always cultivated the fields, yet the warriors cleared the ground and, when not engaged in war or hunting, aided in working and harvesting the crop, though the amount of such assistance varied, being greater among the tribes south of the Ohio, and less among the Iroquois or Six Nations."²

Frequent mention is made in the Relations of the employment by the Iroquois of women to carry burdens upon their various expeditions.³

Mary Jemison, a white woman who lived among the Iroquois, after describing the duties which fell to the women, remarks that "their task is probably not harder than that of

¹ *Jesuit Relations*, R. G. Thwaites ed., vol. I, p. 257.

² Carr, *Mounds of the Mississippi Valley*, Smithsonian Report, 1891, p. 533.

³ *Jesuit Relations*, R. G. Thwaites ed., vol. XLIV, p. 31.