

ments, and other pasty articles. From the sap of the maple, coarse-grained sugar was made; a decoction of sassafras, was used as a drink at their feasts, and the green wax of the bay-berry afforded candles, in which were rush wicks, that "gave a pleasant fragrance while burning."

Their wigwams were constructed of saplings set in the ground in a circle, and drawn together at the top, then covered with mats of woven grass, or with large sheets of birch bark, sewn together with deer sinews, and caulked with some resinous gum. A mat served as a door; in the centre was the fire, and an opening above for the smoke to escape. They had no domestic animals save dogs, and no poultry. In place of our agricultural fairs and cattle shows, they held the "green corn dance," or the "feast of the chestnut moon." The use of milk or dairy products was never entertained by them; and probably from their nomadic habits the cow would have been an incumbrance. As the white man pushed settlements further and further westward, the Indian receded, till reservations were set apart, and the more advanced tribes learned that the white man's system of tilling the soil was the only means open to them to maintain their existence, when the chase failed through scarcity of game and fur-bearing animals. Rude at first were their attempts to cultivate the soil, but contact with the white, in course of time, bore its fruits, and to-day there may be seen on some of the Indian farms as fine fields of grain, and as good cattle, as are to be found amongst the neighbouring settlements. The late Senator Plumb, in a speech at Brantford, made by him on the occasion of the seventeenth agricultural exhibition of the Six Nations, at that town, in 1884, remarked that the agricultural exhibition of the Six Nations Indians would compare favourably with many of the local fairs held by their white brethren. On the same occasion other prominent speakers alluded to the strides made in the cultivation of their reserve, and the great progress in civilization