

I have to ask you to make allowances for my limited education. I have some material here which I would like to read but I am afraid my English is not equal to it.

The CHAIRMAN: Do I understand that you have a brief which you would like to present?

The WITNESS: Yes. This deals particularly with the question of the status of our people. I thought we were to appear here to have a general talk.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, Chief Lickers, what would you like to do? Would you like to make your presentation, and then afterwards when we get through hearing the other witnesses we can call you back and ask you questions?

The WITNESS: Oh, I see.

The CHAIRMAN: Would you like to read this brief for the chief, Mr. Lickers?

The WITNESS: I am afraid my English would run out.

The CHAIRMAN: We will ask our counsel, Mr. Norman Lickers, to read it for you.

The WITNESS: All right.

Mr. LICKERS: The submission is as follows:

"SIX NATIONS,

Grand River Country,

May 22, 1947.

To the Parliamentary Sub-Committee on Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Canada.

HONOURABLE SIRs, We, the Six Nations of Grand River country under the protection of the Haldimand Deed made between Sir Frederick Haldimand in His Majesty's name, King George III and Captain Joseph Brant, demand that you abolish the Indian Act.

It was never accepted by the Six Nations' Confederacy and was never registered. In 1869 the Indian Act was enacted by the dominion government. Before carrying it into effect the dominion government tried to get the Indians to agree to it. An assembly was held at Sarnia in 1871. The Six Nations sent delegates but when they understood why the meeting had been called, they left at once. In 1890, the Canadian government tried to maintain that the Six Nations were governed by the Simcoe Deed of 1793 and by the Indian Act. The Six Nations sent a delegate to London, who reported that the Colonial Office did not consider the Simcoe Act as valid.

On the 25th of October 1784 the Treaty between the Six Nations people and the British Crown was made which confirmed the Six Nations people an independent nation. The Charter of King George III which can be found in the House of Lords, the text of which reads as follows:—

'A Charter by King George III of England to the Five Nations Indians in North America.

*1st Condition*

The Five Nations Indians territorial government. Permanent independency.

*2nd Condition*

Conditionate permanent land of 12 miles wide on the Grand River from its mouth to its source, to the Five Nations Indians.