

Though not inhabiting the country immediately adjacent to the early French settlements, they were unquestionably the fiercest, most determined and vindictive enemies encountered by the early colonists of Canada. By repeated encroachments this proud nation had succeeded in acquiring the domination of a vast territory ; but the French by resisting them and protecting their adversaries, suddenly stopped the former in their career of conquest, and temporarily exalted the latter. Both were obliged finally to succumb before the over mastering power of civilization, to which their brute force and cautious strategy were occasionally made subservient.*

* The foregoing account of the aborigines of North America, has been mostly drawn from Bell's translation of Garneau's History of Canada.