

CHAPTER IV

THE ANDASTES

The Car-an-tou-ans and their Towns on the Upper Susquehanna; Car-an-tou-an, Os-co-lu-i, Go-hon-to-to, O-noch-sa-e, Tenk-gha-nack-e and Others—Spanish Hill; Location, Description, Origin, Occupation, Name and Traditions—Some Curious Relics Found on Tioga Point and Nearby

As has already been seen in the chapter previous, the Carantouans were the first inhabitants of this valley of whom there are any written records. General Clark says of them:

“They were Andastes, that much is certain, but this term was a dragnet that gathered in a great number of tribes and nations.”

The origin and disappearance of the Andastes is shrouded in mystery, further than that they seemed to belong to the same race as the Iroquois; although, like the Hurons, they were their deadly enemies, and were probably only conquered because of the expert use of fire-arms by the Iroquois. They may have previously migrated to the west branch of the Susquehanna to avoid defeat.