

Egle says:

"In 1675 according to the Relations Inédites and Colden, the tribe was completely overthrown, but unfortunately we have no details whatever as to the forces which effected it, or the time or the manner of their utter defeat. The remnant, too proud to yield to those with whom they had long contended as equals, and, by holding the land of their fathers by sufferance, to acknowledge themselves subdued; yet too weak to withstand the victorious Iroquois, forsook the river bearing their name, taking up a position on the western boundaries of Maryland, near the Piscataways. Shortly after they were accused of the murder of some settlers, apparently slain by the Senecas."

Beauchamp says that in 1677 a party of Oneidas, Onondogas and Senecas went south, killed some Susquehannas and took some prisoners. They were probably the marauding party.

"After this accusation of murder the Susquehannocks sent five of their chiefs to the Maryland and Virginia troops, under Col. John Washington, who went out in pursuit. Although coming as deputies, and showing the Baltimore medal and certificate of friendship, these chiefs were cruelly put to death. The enraged Susquehannas then began a terrible border war, which was kept up until their utter destruction."

Some writers say that later they were allowed to return to their old country and settle on Conestoga Creek, as a tributary outpost of the Iroquois, and were subsequently known as Conestogas, and so mentioned in treaties. The handful of Conestoga Indians murdered a hundred years later by an infuriated mob were supposed to be their descendants.

While the Mohawks had been such bitter foes it is worthy of note that in 1675, when the Senecas wished to exterminate the remnant of Andastes, the Mohawks said they were their brothers and children, and might live with them. Colden says that the Iroquois removed a portion of them to a location higher up. These may have been the Onontiogas mentioned in the Jesuit Relations, 1670, Chapter IX.

In Deed Book VI, 28, in the Secretary's office, Albany, is a commission to Col. Coursey, from the Governor of Maryland, dated 30th April, 1677, in which it is stated that:

"The said Susquehannas have *lately* desired to come to a Treaty of Peace with his said Lordship (Baltimore), and have (as I am informed) since ye said Overture submitted themselves to, and putt themselves under the protection of the Cinnigos (Senecas) or some other natyon of Indyns residing to ye Northward of this Province."

It would hence appear that their conquest occurred about 1676.

The following letter of Sir Edmund Andros to the Governor of Maryland is self-explanatory:

"I writt to you lately by a Ketch of this place, giving you an Accot. of my return from Albany, & state of things here, & of my engaging Maquas & Sinnekes, not anyways to injure any Christians to the Eastward, & particularly in

yor parts Southward, in their Warrs with the Susquehanna's; but others apprehending it would bee difficult to restrain those People, especially Young Men, when soe farr abroad, & Opportunities, I did endeavour to bee rightly informed of things relating to that Warr, & found that the Susquehanna's being reputed by the Maques of their Off-Spring, that they might be brought to joine Peace or Concorporate again, and soe take away the Occasion of those Mischiefs or Inroads, though I find find still the Sinneques wholly adverse to it; desiring their Extirpacon, but hearing now of Indyan Troubles wch. hath lately occasioned raising forces in yor parts, I have sent the Bearer expresse to wait on you herewith; And if it bee by the Maques or Sinneques againe to offer you my Service according to my former and this Letter, which I hope & beleeve may be effectuell, if taken in time. And therefore pray yor Answer & Resolves as soon as may bee: And if you think good would desire some from the Susquehannas to come to mee as soon as can bee, that so I may Order Matters accordingly. Wee are (I thank God) very quiet, not the least stirr or Attempt on any part of the Government. However have made all fitting Preparation for all Events. I am
Sr Yor Most Humble Servant

"N. Yorke Octobr 21st 1675."

(From N. Y. Colonial Doc.)

"E. ANDROS."

In 1695 one hundred Senecas and Cayugas were reported as going against the Andastes (in ignorance of the cessation of hostilities). About 1700 Governor Penn bought land of the Conestogas, to which the Iroquois assented, which indicates that at the conquest they were allowed to retain some of their Susquehanna lands. In 1709 an important council was held at Conestoga, the governor being present. In 1712 the Conestogas were at war with the Tuscaroras and other southern Indians, having taken the English side. August, 1722, an important council was held with the Indians at Albany, the Governor of Pennsylvania being present. At this time the Five Nations acknowledged the sales of land made by the Conestogas; the latter, however, claimed that the Five Nations, as a body, had no title to Susquehanna lands, and, indeed, that *only the Cayugas* claimed them, and they (Conestogas) wished the matter settled.¹³ This surely indicates that the Andastes were not forced to relinquish all of their territory. A Seneca chief said the Susquehannocks had a right to sell their lands *until their conquest in 1677*. The Governor of Pennsylvania told the other governors that the Conestogas spoke the same language as the Five Nations, but paid them tribute. At the Lancaster treaty of 1744 (as related by Colden) the speech of the Deputies of the Six Nations contained this interesting remark:

"We don't remember that we have been conquered by the Great King (of England) or employed by him to conquer others. We do remember we were employed by Maryland to conquer the Conestogas, and that the second time we were at war with them we carried them all off."

In December, 1794, the famous Joseph Brant, in writing to Colonel Pickering concerning former Indian possessions, said:

"The whole Five Nations have an equal right one with another, the country having been obtained by their joint exertions, in war with a powerful nation, formerly living south of Buffalo Creek called Eries, and another nation then living at Tioga Point; so that by our successes all the country between that and the Mississippi became the joint property of the Five Nations."

¹³ Dr. Beauchamp says that some Cayugas went to Pennsylvania in 1723 to settle the matter, and many chiefs to the council at Stenton in 1736 with the same purpose.

The Eries were conquered about 1654. Must not the "nation at Tioga Point" have been some branch of the Andastes? Alas, that Brant was not more explicit.

Certain it seems to be that the Andastes, remarkable, brave and fierce to an unusual degree, were finally compelled to succumb to the "Romans of America," the Iroquois, *leaving no definite record* of the occupation and abandonment of their numerous towns on the upper Susquehanna, nor of their final subjugation. It has surely been an error, however, to assert that they were destroyed before the use of firearms, as these foregoing pages show that they had the use of them about forty years before their disappearance. The Dutch sold fire-arms only to the Iroquois it is said, but the Andastes obtained them from the Swedes and English. Surely their town sites should receive careful attention from those interested in archæology and ethnology; there may then be many secrets yet to be revealed.¹⁴

"Ye say that all have passed away, the noble and the brave;
That their light canoes have vanished from off the crested wave.
That 'mid the forest where they roamed there rings no hunter's shout,
But their name is on your waters, ye may not wash it out;
Their memory liveth on your hills, their baptism on your shore.
Your ever living waters speak their dialect of yore."