

Stockbridge Indian Notes

The settlement gradually increased for many years, until they numbered nearly 500, though it is probable that their average number, while they remained in the town, was about 400. A short time before the Revolutionary War, a township 6 miles square was given them by the Oneidas, in the state of New York. After the close of the war in 1783, some of them removed, a large proportion of them in 1785, and the residue in 1788. In 1810 they were thought to have numbered more than 600. In 1822 these Indians began to move to Green Bay, on the southern shore of Lake Michigan, on to a tract of 5,000,000 acres purchased for them and other Indians in the state of New York, for \$500, of the Menominie and Winnebago tribes. The head of Green Bay is near the center of their purchase. The residence of Capt. Konkapot has been mentioned; that of King Ben (Benjamin Kokkewenaunaut) was on the elevated ground back of the Housatonic, half a mile west of the plain. In 1771, being then 94 years old, this chieftain told his people that they must appoint another king, and King Solomon (Solomon Unhaunnauwaunnutt) was chosen his successor. His house was on the south bank of the Housatonic, opposite Little Hill. He died in February 1777, aged 50. King Ben lived till April 1781, being 104 years old.