BUREAU AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY
CATALOGUE OF MANUSCRIPTS

X-HISTORICAL-A,
IX-C

No. 3583

Stock: Iroquoian

Tribe: Huron, Erie or Cat Nation

Collector: J.N.B.Hewitt

Place:

Date:

Remarks: References and etymology, Erie or Cat Nation; notes on the Huron , with excerpts from Jesuit Relations. 18 pp. misc.

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X A

8, 115 302
16, 259.

They were mentioned along with the Andastoerrhonons, Scahentoarrhonõs, Rhüerrhonons, in the Jes. Rel, for 1635, 8, 115, after the Erie, asthouenrochrhonons, in 1641 (Chap. VI) they lived in the town of Khioetoa (St. Michel) and were well-disposed towards the Missionaries.

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Bressani (39, 141, 1653,) says that the Oenronronnons who had formerly traded with the English, Dutch, and other heretical Europeans, were accused by the Hurons of charging the Jesuit Fathers with being "wicked people, pernicious to the public weal, expelled from their countries, where, if they had us, they would put us to death; and that we had now fled to those lands in order to ruin them as soon as possible". 141

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But Bressani (Jrs. Rel., Thwaites ed., XXXIX, 141,) speaking of the W. says that they had but recently come into the country and "had formerly traded with the English, Dutch, and other heretical Europeans." It has been seen that they were an allied tribe of the Neutrals and that they had dwelt eastward or perhaps south eastward of Lake Erie as they dwelt ~~as~~

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~~the eastern to~~ Eastwards of the Neutral country which on the right bank of Niagara river extended as far as the east ~~southward~~ and ~~as the~~ ~~to~~ of Lake Erie and thence eastward to the Iroquois territory on the line of the Genesee r. watershed. And as they were the enemies of the Iroquois and as they had traded with the Dutch and the English and other "heretical"

Europeans it is probable that they were allies of the famous "Black Minquaas" of Augustine Herrman's map of Virginia and Maryland of 1670 (printed in 1673), who, he says, traded with the Dutch on the Delaware.

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Concerning these people some interesting data is learned from a lengthy legend on A. Herrman's map of Virginia and Maryland of 1670: ~~from~~ from it the following facts are pertinent here: That beyond the Allegany Mountains the streams flow westward either into the "Bay of Mexico or the West Sea;" especially the first one discovered, "a very great River, called the Black

Mincquaas River (the Ohio), whereon lived the tribe of that name; that there was ~~a branch of the~~ a branch (the Conemaugh) of the "Black Mincquaas River" opposite a branch (the Juniata) of the Susquehanna r., which entered the main stream some leagues above "the Sassquahana forte" near the two Conewago creeks, and near "the greatest fal;" that "where formerly these Black Mincquas came over as far as Welaware to trade;" but that

the Sassquahana and Sinnicus Indians went over and destroyed that very great nation." Van der Donck mentions these Indians, ~~saying~~ and gives ~~their~~ an indication of the position as a reason for their appellation "Black." He says, "The beavers are usually taken far inland, there being few of them near the settlements — particularly by the Black Minquas, who are thus named because they were a black badge on their breast, and not because they are really black;"

Massa

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Now Champlain's statement in 1615 that the Carantouan people had only three towns opposed to 28 other hostile ones seems to confirm the contention that they were not identical with the lower Susq or Minqo people on which they made war.

Carantouan was a palisaded town with a population of 800 warriors or about 4000 souls. 7 days journey from Dutch trading post at Ft Orange,

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Of the Massawomekes ~~Strachey~~ Smith ~~that~~ says that "beyond the mountains from whence is the head of the river Patawomeke, the Savages report, inhabit their most mortal enemies, the Massawomekes upon a great salt water," and that these people were a great nation and very populous, for the "heads of all those rivers, especially the Pattawomekes, the Pantuxunters, the Sasquesahanocks, the Tockwoughes, are continually tormented by them. 71p. He met 7 canoe loads of these Indians at the head of the Bay in 1608, and judging their "Targets, baskets, swords, tobacco pipes, platters, bows & arrows," and other things, the