

consequent upon the planting and consolidating a mighty Republic; and even at the present time, it is perhaps thought by thousands of American born citizens, that some, if not all, of the aforesaid tribes, have become now entirely extinct—if not, they ask, Where are they? The answer to this question forms the subject of this letter.

Some time in the year 17—, I am unable to give the precise date, but it was many years after the tribes above spoken of were conquered and dispersed, some here and some there, an Indian by the name of David Fowler, of the Montauk tribe, who lived on the east end of Long Island, having acquired a tolerable English education, took a tour into the interior of the State of New York.* Fortunately, he fell in with a large and powerful tribe of his "Red Brethren," called the "Oneidas," the principal chief of whom, finding that Fowler possessed a good degree of the "book learning," and other useful knowledge of the "pale faces," kindly invited him to set up his lodge, and rest among them awhile; and in the meantime to open a school for educating the children of the Nation. To this proposition, Fowler consented, and remained among them a year or eighteen months; during this time the chief made many enquiries relative to his red brethren in the East, particularly of the following tribes, to wit:—*Narragansetts, Pequots, Montauks, Mohegans, Nahanticks*, and another tribe who were called *Farmington Indians*, what their Indian name was is unknown. Fowler gave a true statement of the fallen

*This first visit of David Fowler to the Oneidas was in June, 1761, and continued till the ensuing August, when he returned to the white settlements, having in charge three Mohawk youth, one of whom was the famous Joseph Brant, to be educated at Wheelock's Indian School. Fowler had entered this School at Lebanon, about 1759; and after his return from the Oneidas and Mohawks, in 1761, continued his studies; and in March, 1765, was approved as an Indian teacher, and set out for the Oneida Nation on the 29th of April following. He at once commenced his Indian School at Canajoharie; but a famine which visited Western New York this year, obliged the Oneidas to remove in search of food to another quarter, and Fowler returned to New England for further aid. "We have no means," says Dr. O'Callaghan, "of following up the remainder of his career, but he is stated to have been alive in 1811, at Oneida, an industrious farmer and useful man." See Wheelock's *Indian Narrative of 1763; and Doc. Hist. of N. Y.*, vol. iv.—L. C. D.