

that if they had been permitted to go through a course of classical studies, but few white young men could have excelled them.

The lot of John W. Quinney having fallen among an interesting people, the old and constant friends of the United States, the Stockbridge Nation, who were just emerging from a state of barbarism into civilization, he was employed by them to impart that instruction he had received to their youth. By a constant and unwearied attention in this business, he gained the confidence and good will of all, so that arriving to years of maturity he was immediately transferred to attend to the affairs of the Nation.

A mere outline of the character of John W. Quinney would fail to do justice to the renowned chief of at least a portion of the Stockbridge Nation. His whole life has been a scene of constant activity and unwearied industry in Indian diplomacy. Since he has been engaged publicly during the last thirty years on affairs arising between the Stockbridges and the United States, and the State of New York, with distinction, it would require a large volume to recount the varied incidents and events connected with his romantic history. He has visited the seat of General Government on business eleven times; and during a large portion of the period occupied by these missions, he has met with repeated difficulties and obstacles from various sources, which failing to frustrate his undaunted spirit, served only to increase the confident reliance of those by whom he was employed, to bring to a successful issue, their favorite schemes of policy. Unlike Sysiphus, though decreed to a life of constant toil and labor, without a prospect of ease and freedom, he seemed to be employed, *in ease and freedom*, against the trials and impediments by which he was surrounded. And like Charles the Twelfth, he laughed at the thought of avoiding danger; delighting, amid the whizzing storms of life, to encounter his numerous foes.