

ward, mainly through the influence of the Rev. Eleazer Williams, who has, since that time, claimed to be the Dauphin, or lawful heir to the crown of France, and who had previously been a missionary of the Episcopal church among the Oneidas for some five or six years. As these Indians were partially Christianized, Mr. Williams claimed, that, by intermingling with the wild men of the West, they might be the means of converting the latter to the principles of Christianity. It has, however, been asserted, that there had been chartered a powerful land company in the State of New York, whose pre-emption attached to the lands occupied by these bands, as soon as they might leave that State; and that this company operated in a quiet way upon Mr. Williams and the agents of the general government, to bring about their removal. They did not, however, all come to Wisconsin immediately after their new purchase, but immigrated at intervals for several successive years. After coming West, there was quite a lengthy negotiation among the parties, before they were peacefully and permanently settled.

In the year 1839, the Brothertowns sent a petition to Congress, to be recognized as citizens of the United States. Their request was granted. They, therefore, abolished their tribal government, and became subject to the laws of the United States and of Wisconsin. They exercise the elective franchise, by virtue of our State constitution, which confers that right upon "persons of Indian blood, who have once been declared, by law of Congress, to be citizens of the United States." In the year 1843, the Stockbridges were, also, by act of Congress, admitted to the rights of citizenship. They subsequently, however, became divided upon this subject, and a majority of them returned to their old form of government. On coming to their new homes, these two tribes settled in what has become Calumet County, though since that time some of the Stockbridges have removed farther to the north. They built comfortable homes, and erected saw and grist-mills. It is claimed by the Brothertowns that they built the first steamboat which ever plied upon Lake Winnebago, called by them the "Manchester."