

In the year 1838, the Oneidas, acting under the advice of their missionary, Rev. Solomon Davis, resolved to sell a portion of their lands, for the purpose of obtaining money with which to make some needed improvements on their domain; and, for this purpose, sent Mr. Davis with some of their chiefs, to Washington. A treaty was accordingly signed, which was ratified by the United States senate. By the terms of this treaty, they sold to the United States all their lands, except a piece situated on Duck Creek near Green Bay. These Indians have never been declared by act of Congress, to be citizens of the United States, and are not, therefore, entitled to the rights of State citizenship. They maintain their own form of government.

The Indians now residing in the State of Wisconsin, are the following:

Several bands of the Chippeways, who are a part of the original and warlike tribe better known as Ojibwas, whose territory originally extended along the shores of Lakes Huron, Superior, and the northern shore of Lake Michigan, and as far west as the Mississippi River. They number something over 1,200.

There are about the same number of Menomonees, who have a reservation mainly in Shawano County, of some 230,000 acres. A considerable portion of the Menomonees have made substantial advancements in civilization, and are engaged in the pursuits of agriculture. That portion of the Stockbridges who separated from their brethren in Calumet County, and whose numbers are now less than 300, are located on a reservation near the Menomonees.

The Oneidas number some 1,500, and have their reservation of over 60,000 acres, located near Green Bay. They are also engaged mainly in the cultivation of the soil. There are also some stray bands of the Winnebagoes and Pottowatamies, numbering nearly 1,000, who did not remove with their respective tribes west of the Mississippi, or who returned soon after their removal, and who are now scattered through the central and northern portions of the State. They subsist mainly by cultivating small patches of ground, and by hunting and fishing.