

EARLY INDIAN HISTORY IN SAUGEEN TOWNSHIP cont'd:

have been large and robust people. Remnants of copper beads and marginella beads found with the burial, particularly the graves of three infants indicate that they were traders, probably receiving the copper from other Indians to the west, and the shell beads from those east of them. Beaver teeth and other material in necklaces were also found.

hungry and if we had any bread we would give them something to eat. They were always peaceable and quietly disposed, and would not attempt to enter if there were no one around, but would soon go away, although the door was not locked".

Signs of arthritis was found on the bones. The teeth show the rough diet that they had and the vigorous chewing necessary to masticate their food. Dental disease is quite apparent. One molar showed a large cavity. Peridontal disease of pyorrhea is also quite evident. Bone destruction due to abscess conditions is also evident. These are being studied by the Department of Anthropology of the University of Toronto.

Some of the chief features of the excavations to date are the excellent conditions of the skeletons found".

In 1750 the Chippewas defeated the Iroquois at the mouth of the Saugeen River in one of the bloodiest Indian battles. As a result the Iroquois' hold in Ontario was broken.

As further excavations are made at Southampton, we hope to be able to trace the story of the Indian's acceptance of the white man's way of life, down to the present time.

Following is a short extract from "Pioneer Days" by David Kennedy Sr., published in 1903; which describes early encounters with the Indians: *W / 852*.

"Amongst other visitors, and in the way of variety, we would receive calls from the Indians, who were often passing up and down the river in their canoes, spearing ducks and fish, and it was most surprising to see how expert they were in the managing of their canoes, for they would dart about after the sturgeon at great speed, and the squaws were just as quick and skilful in managing the canoes as the men, for they would stand with a foot on each side, on the top of the canoe, and dart it about after the fish like a shot, while the men would use the spear, and often they would get a number of fish which they would exchange for bread with the settlers when they could do so.

They used to come up to our shanty and stand outside, by the door, and halloo loudly, and when we would leave our work to see what was wanted, they would say "tobacco", and when we told them that we had none, as we did not use it, they would then pat on their stomachs, and say "buckity". That meant that they were