

Joseph Brant



hand of King George III. As the king's hand reached out to him, Brant swept it aside. "I kiss the hand of no man!" he declared. Then, as gasping on-lookers struggled to recover from their shock, Brant diplomatically offered to kiss Queen Charlotte's hand.

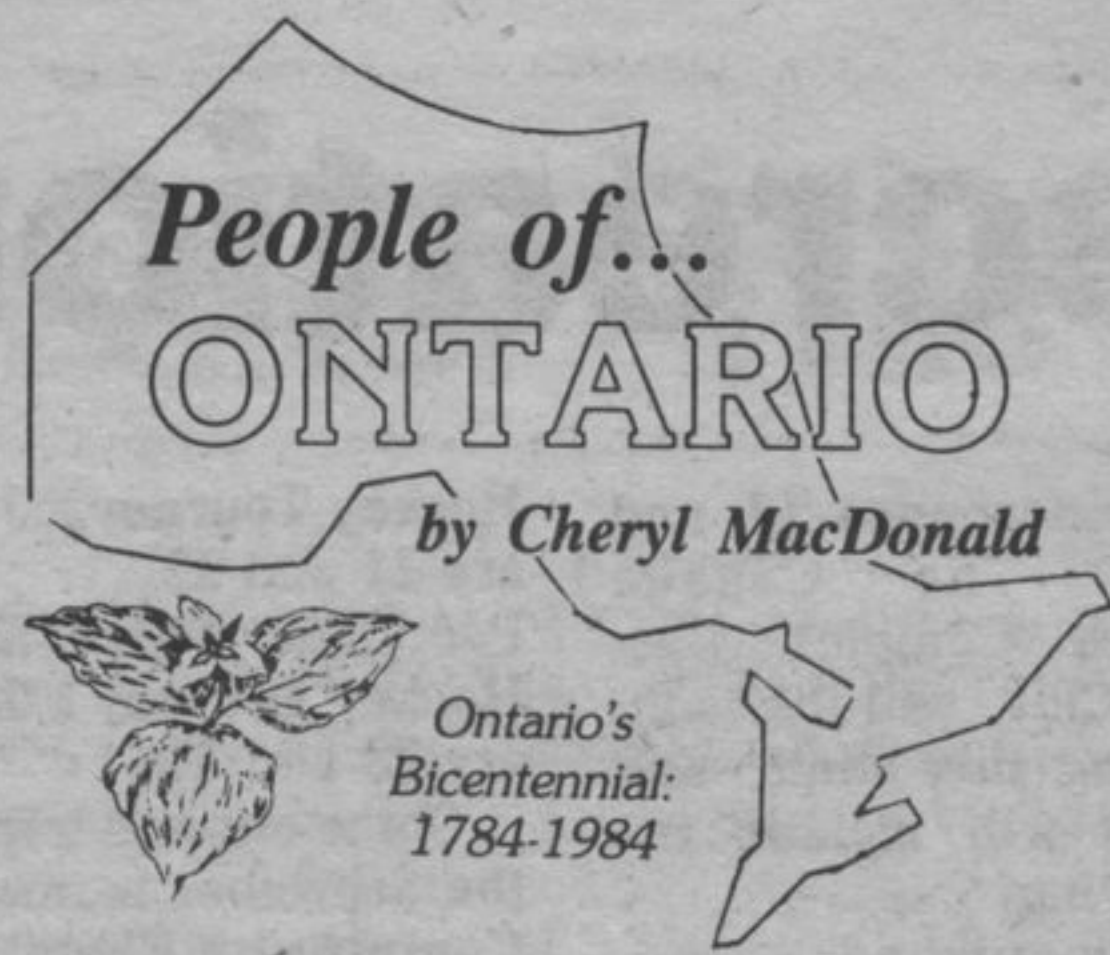
Although King George was petulant if crossed and already suffering from the disease which drove him mad, the meeting was successful. For Brant was a powerful leader in his own right, and on the eve of the American Revolution, King George desperately needed his help.

Joseph Brant was born on the banks of the Ohio River in 1742. His parents' home was in

the Mohawk Valley of New York, but at the time of his birth they were part of a group hunting in the lands of their allies. The baby was called Thayendanegea - "two sticks of wood bound together - a Mohawk

symbol of strength. When the boy's father died, his mother married an Indian with the Christian name of Brant, and so Thayendanegea was called Brant's Joseph, or Joseph Brant.

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Striding proudly beside his long-time friend, Col. Guy Johnson, the fiercely handsome Mohawk entered the throne room of St. James Palace. In silence, Joseph Brant watched his friend kneel and kiss the outstretched



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