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was the translation of

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Help Wanted

Joseph Brant . . .

continued from page 10

Joseph was educated in the traditional manner of an Iroquois brave. As a Mohawk, member of the proudest tribe in a powerful confederacy, he learned the rich heritage of his ancestors. He learned practical lessons, too: hunting, wood lore, and the skills of war, which he put to use in 1755.

He was 13 when he accompanied Sir Willi-Johnson, superintend of Indian Affairs, husband of his sister Molly Brant, to Lake George. There, and in the battles that followed in the next two years, the British forces defeated the French and secured their claim to North America.

While Joseph's prowess as a warrior might have assured him a place of honour in his people's longhouses a generation earlier, traditional Indian skills were no longer sufficient. The steady westward push of American colonists was altering the Indian way of life, and an Indian leader needed to move in two worlds. Influenced no doubt by William Johnson, Brant enrolled in a mission school in Connecticut. He was 19, older than his fellow students, but he studied hard. By the time he left school to help quell the Pontiac uprising, he was instructing other students.

Brant proved his skills as a statesman when he convinced the Six Nations Iroquois to forget Pontiac and remain allied with the British. In the peace which followed, he settled down on a farm with his wife Owase and two children. But Owase died of tuberculosis when their son was seven. Brant married her half-sister, Onogola, who succumbed to the disease a year later. After waiting several years, he married Catherine Croghan, who was half-Irish, half-Indian.

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Brant's third marriage took place on the eve of the American Revolution. About the same time, Sir William Johnson died. There was much dissention within the Six Nations confederacy. Some favored the British point of view, while others wanted to side with the rebels. Only Brant's influence - and an insult from the Continental Congress, which sent a minor official to negotiate with the Indians kept the confederacy allied with the Red-

coats.

The war was long, bloody, and, for the British, futile. In the aftermath, many of the Six Nations Indians moved to Canada, where British governor Sir Frederick Haldimand provided land for them. Some settled in the Bay of Quinte area, but most followed Brant to land reserved for them on either side of the Grand River. There, the town of Brantford was established. By 1782, it had a population of 1500, a sawmill, a school and a chapel, the first protestant church in Ontario.

Yet, for Joseph Brant, the new land brought little peace. There were rivalries within the tribes, and one old enemy accused him of misappropriating Indian funds. Then, in a drunken rage, Brant's only son Issac attacked him. In self-defense, Brant killed the younger man. Although acquitted, he never forgave him-

He spent his final days at Wellington Square, the house he built for himself on Burlington Bay. One of his proudest accomplishments during this time

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