It seems fairly certain that the Iroquois Indians pushed into Pennsylvania before the tenth century and gradually supplanted the authority of the Algonkians over much of that territory. When the European settlers appeared in eastern Pennsylvania the Lenape or Delawares had come under the domination of the Iroquois, some tribes of which had banded together to constitute the Five Nations. The Iroquois applied the title of Women to the Lenape, a term which in time became very obnoxious, as indicating weakness and inferiority.

The territory now comprising Lehigh County probably was used by the Indians almost exclusively as hunting and fishing grounds, although for these purposes less valuable than the regions north of Kittatinny (Blue) Mountain. The entire area was covered with several varieties of oak, maple and other deciduous trees, with few conifers. Large trees were rare and grew only along the streams, a condition probably brought about by the occasional forest fires set by the Indians to drive the game through the gaps in Kittatinny (Blue) Mountain for slaughter by the hunters stationed there in ambush.

Lehigh County is fortunate in having had several able investigators of Indian life and lore as residents of the county or nearby counties. From their writings one can obtain a fairly comprehensive view. A list of the more important is included in the bibliography at the close of this chapter. The best account of the Indians of this section is that by Alfred Franklin Berlin (Chapter III, pp. 18-40, History of Lehigh County by Roberts, Stoudt, Krice and Dietrich, 1914). Mr. Berlin has furnished fine descriptions of many of the artifacts found in this district—pottery, net-sinkers, hammers, grooved and ungrooved axes, adzes, knives, scrapers, gorgets, ceremonial weapons, pestles, spear-heads, drills, and arrow-heads.

It seems that there were no permanent Indian villages in what is now Lehigh County. One Indian chief, Kolapechna (from whose name Coplay has been derived), lived for several years along what is now Coplay Creek near the present location of Neffs. From the great number of artifacts and jasper chips found on Jeter Island and on the flat land on the south side of Lehigh River within the broad curve of that stream between Allentown and Bethlehem (commonly known as the Geissinger Farm) it would seem as though groups lived in those places repeatedly, if not continuously. Trout Creek near its junction with the Lehigh River was another favorite place for the Indians to tarry. Temporary villages also probably existed in the vicinity of the jasper quarries described on later pages. Various places in Weisenberg, Upper Milford, and Upper Saucon townships have been thought to be the sites of Indian settlements because of the abundance of artifacts.

A settlement of converted Indians under the supervision of the Moravians was maintained on the outskirts of Bethlehem between 1758 and 1763. The village was named Nain by Count Zinzendorf in 1742 when the idea of a Christian Indian village was first considered. The village was in Hanover Township a short distance north of Union Boulevard, West Bethlehem. When the Government moved the Indians to Philadelphia all the houses were destroyed but one, which

* Berlin, A. F., op. cit.