Chief Nees-Wau-gee

By N Johnston

One chief that lived near Lake Maxinkuckee was Chief Nees-wau-gee. He was a quiet, peaceable chief. His village was on the east shore of Lake Maxinkuckee, and his cabin is said to have been located on what later became the property of the Bigley family, on 18B Road, east of Lake Maxinkuckee. Nees-way-gee was selected by Potawatomi as their chief orator during the Council of Kewannee in 1836, which was at Bruce Lake, between Logansport and Lake Maxinkuckee.

Nees-wau-gee was a friend to early white settlers. When he was being forced to move, he was determined to go peacefully. The day before he started to move he sent word to all white settlers to come to his village, so he could say farewell. While he was talking to the settlers, he was truly sad, for he cared about all the settlers he met. He knew that he would not see them again.



Painting by George Winter

Sources: Chief Nees-wau-gee. Retrieved from culver.lib.in.us