

Is it an extravagant statement to say that some day Montauk will rank among the celebrated resorts of the country? Some reader may want to know if Mr. Benson has a good title to all this valuable stretch of land. Practically he has. The only ones to lay claim to the domain are the original owners, the Montauk Indians, at one time the most noted tribe on all Long Island. In a few years this once proud band of red men will cease to exist. It is on the point of extermination. When Mr. Benson bought the property he found a small remnant of the tribe in possession, which he induced to settle upon a farm in Easthampton which he gave them. When they left Montauk the Indians surrendered the land of their forefathers. In 1880 the last king, Stephen Pharaoh died. His wife, the last queen, still lives, about the only representation of the Montauks. I saw her scrubbing the floor of a drug store at Easthampton. This is what civilization has done for the red man.

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