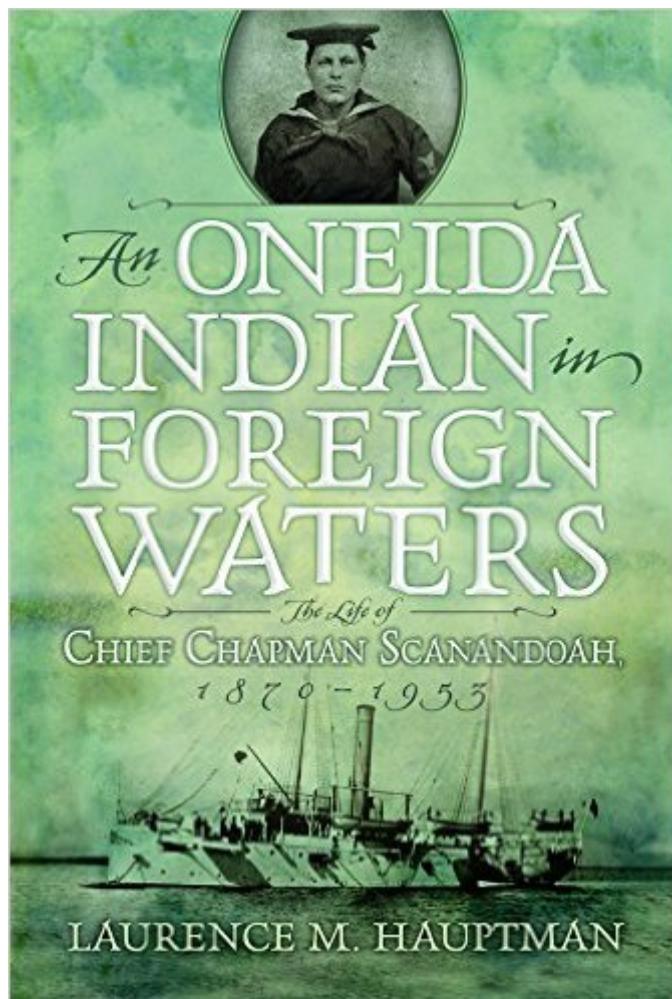


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# An Oneida Indian In Foreign Waters: The Life Of Chief Chapman Scanandoah, 1870–1953 (The Iroquois And Their Neighbors)



## Synopsis

Chief Chapman Scanandoah (1870–1953) was a decorated Navy veteran who served in the Spanish-American War, a skilled mechanic, and a prize-winning agronomist who helped develop the Iroquois Village at the New York State Fair. He was also a historian, linguist, philosopher, and early leader of the Oneida land claims movement. However, his fame among the Oneida people and among many of his Hodinâhsâniâ™ contemporaries today rests with his career as an inventor. In the era of Thomas Edison, Scanandoah challenged the stereotypes of the day that too often portrayed Native Americans as primitive, pre-technological, and removed from modernity. In *An Oneida Indian in Foreign Waters*, Hauptman draws from Scanandoahâ™s own letters; his court, legislative, and congressional testimony; military records; and forty years of fieldwork experience to chronicle his remarkable life and understand the vital influence Scanandoah had on the fate of his people. Despite being away from his homeland for much of his life, Scanandoah fought tirelessly in federal courts to prevent the loss of the last remaining Oneida lands in New York State. Without Scanandoah and his extended Hanyoust family, Oneida existence in New York might have been permanently extinguished. Hauptmanâ™s biography not only illuminates the extraordinary life of Scanandoah but also sheds new light on the struggle to maintain tribal identity in the face of an increasingly diminished homeland.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In this book, we have that very rare thing: the biography of a Native American figure who moved through what I have called âthe many worlds of the Iroquois.â™ (Michael Leroy Oberg author of *Peacemakers: The Iroquois, the United States, and the Treaty of Canandaigua, 1794*) Widely

admired for combining meticulous research with deep sympathy for his subject, Hauptman is the foremost historian of recent Iroquois history. Now he has given us a work illuminating the notable life of Chapman Scanandoah. . . . This book casts new light on neglected chapters of the Oneida land claims story. (Anthony Wonderley author of Oneida Iroquois Folklore, Myth, and History: New York Oral Narrative from the Notes of H. E. Allen and Others) In this excellent little book, Laurence Hauptman recovers the extraordinary story of Oneida activist, inventor, sailor, and agronomist, Chapman Scanandoah. Scanandoah was used to being an outsider: first, as a Native American at the historically black Hampton Institute, then in the U.S. Navy, and finally as an Oneida on the Onondaga Reservation. His story offers us a unique perspective on America from the Gilded Age to the Cold War. (Karim M. Tiro Ph.D., Professor and Chair Department of History, Xavier University) Integrating Chapman Scanandoah into the broad history of the HodinÂ¶hsÂ¶:ni, Laurence Hauptman has produced an important, scholarly, and fast-paced book that explores an Oneida patriotâ™s life in protecting the Iroquois as they responded to modernization and American societyâ™s hostility to Six Nations aspirations. (Carl Benn author of The Iroquois in the War of 1812)

Chronicles the extraordinary life of Chapman Scanandoah and the indelible impact he had on Oneida history.

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