

known by the name of "Ahlonquawhewlinoo" to the Delawares as their friend. The Chief explained the name meant, "A man of the stars," no doubt alluding to that gentleman's star-gazing propensities.

LOCAL NOMENCLATURE.

NOTES ON INDIAN AND FRENCH NAMES IN ONTARIO.

REV. DR. SCADDING'S PAPER BEFORE THE YORK PIONEERS—THE ALGONKIN FOREST AND PARK—AMUSING MISTAKES MADE BY ILLITERATE PERSONS—AN APPEAL FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ORIGINAL NAMES.

(From the Toronto Daily Mail of Nov. 6th, 1886.)

The following paper was read by President Rev. Dr. Scadding at the last regular monthly meeting of the York Pioneers' Association:

Throughout our Province of Ontario the names which at present distinguish its hills and vales, its lakes, rivers and waterfalls, as also the names which distinguish the cities, towns and villages that have now sprung up within its limits, all bear witness to the "nations and kindreds and peoples and tongues" which from time to time have successively possessed or inhabited the soil of the country. Our local names as we know, are some of them Indian, some of them French, and a vast number of them English, Irish and Scotch; to which list now not a few German names are to be added. In all the provinces of the Dominion and throughout the whole of North America, the case is very much the same so that in all future time local names everywhere on this continent will, for the sake of their testimony, be invested with special interest. Throughout the continent of Europe and everywhere in Great Britain and Ireland, local names have long engaged the attention of the studious, on account of the important information, historical and ethnological, which they afford. By means of these footprints, so to speak, the path of the Phœnician, the Celt, the Teuton, the Scandinavian, the Arab, or whatever other name the wanderer may have borne, can be traced as he made this way, with occasional detentions and rests, across Europe and its outlying islands, until checked at last by the Atlantic ocean—a barrier, however, crossed, it may be, by not a few, every now and then long before the days of Columbus. Remarks, then, on local names, Indian, French, English, Irish and Scotch, having in view their significance and the maintenance of propriety in their formation and suitableness in their application, can seldom be deemed out of place. At present I shall confine myself to observations on some of our Indian and French local names. It is gratifying to learn from a pamphlet emanating lately from the Crown Lands Department that our Local Government is about to establish around the sources of the Muskoka, Petewawa, Bonnechere and Madawaska rivers

A PUBLIC FOREST AND PARK,

for the purpose of preserving specimens of our natural woods and native game and fish, and also preventing the diminution of rainfall, which is beginning to affect so seriously the volume of some of our streams; and this reserve, we are

informed, is to be entitled the Algonkin Forest and Park, in memory of the great subdivision of the red Indian race which inhabited chiefly along the northern shores of the St. Lawrence and the great lakes, their rivals and foes, the Iroquois, occupying the regions to the south of those waters. The point I have to remark upon on the present occasion is this: The Government authorities in giving a name to the new forest and park have adopted the form Algonkin in preference to the more usual one, Algonquin. And wisely so, I think, for the English writer or speaker is thereby compelled to come nearer to the sound intended to be embodied in the final syllable, even where the termination *quin* was used. It is, I think, quite legitimate to give assistance now and then in the transforming of Indian names into English by a phonetic artifice of this kind. Our own well-known and noble-sounding local name Algoma is akin to Algonkin. Its first syllable is an allusion to that general appellation for a great subdivision of the North American Indian race; while the *goma* is borrowed from *gomee*, the latter portion of the expression Kitchi-gomee, Big-seawater, applied by the Otchipways to Lake Superior. (Chief Crowfoot, the other day, we may have observed, saluted it, when he saw it for the first time, as Little Brother of the Ocean.) Algoma has thus, when taken properly, a comprehensive reference to the whole Algonkin territory, stretching from the far east to Lake Superior and beyond. Schoolcraft, a writer of many works on Indian matters, and a thoughtful student of Indian nomenclature, framed this word for English use; as also the term Algic, employed by him in his volumes entitled "Algic Researches," meaning researches in the Algonkin traditions. He also suggested the name Igoma for Lake Superior itself. Manitoba is

ANOTHER NOT UNGRACEFUL NAME

successfully moulded out of an Indian expression. It means, I believe, a lake where there is a spirit. For a time, as we shall remember, a strong effort was made to enforce Manito-bah as its proper pronunciation, but it has now pretty generally been made to conform to English use and analogy, just as has been done with Ottawa, once (phonetically) Ottah-wah; Niagara, once Onyah-gah-ra; Arkansas, once Arkan-saw, and Canada itself, once Cana-daw. In Kee-wa-tin, the name at present applied to an incipient province west of Manitoba, the authorities cannot be said to have been happy. The word is very deficient in dignity. It would have been better to have kept closer to the already fixed and famous Keewaydin of Longfellow's Hiawatha, adding thereto an *a* or an *ia*, to denote territory. (By the addition of a termination of their own, the French formed out of some crude native vocable the beautiful word Acadie, which we have further improved by expansion, according to English custom, into the very classic-sounding Acadia. In the same way we make Algeria out of Algeria, which the French contrived out of the rather unsightly Al Dschezair, Alger, Algiers.) It is possible that Keewatin may hereafter be revised. Kewaydina, "Land of the North Wind," would not sound ill. An Indian territorial term, still further west is Assiniboia, a well-formed appellation, having allusion to the Assiniboels or Assiniboils, and the Assiniboine

river. There is an Indian expression nearer home to which I vehemently demur, and this is the name by which a village on one of our back lakes between Lake Simcoe and the Trent is commonly known, Bobcaygeon. It is doubtless one of those wretched transformations which the illiterate man is so fond of making in a foreign term which he does not understand, for the purpose of vernacularizing it in some way at all risks. Thus our river Etobikoke, which really means Black Alder stream, frequently figured in early newspapers here as Toby Cocke; and once it appears in D. W. Smyth's early Gazetteer as Toby Coake. So English sailors in the Mediterranean have made out of Livorno, Leghorn; out of Hyeres Island, Irish Island; out of Cyclades, Sick Ladies, and so on. In Captain Owen's chart of the back lakes, published by the Lords of the Admiralty, in 1838, the name of one of them just here is given as Babakayjuen, of which

THE SIGNIFICATION CAN BE MADE OUT

by the aid of Baraga's dictionary to be "a succession of narrow, shallow rapids over rocks." Babakajjuen sounds good Indian. It is the Lower Canadian pronunciation of the first syllable of the word that has done the mischief, by making bawb out of it as in the well-known old family name Baby. (From the same cause Cape Gargantua, in Lake Superior appears wrongly as Gorgontua, in D. W. Smyth's Gazetteer, and the Sable as the Sauble, a little to the south of the Saugeen in Lake Huron, in Lovell's. Some rough lumberer has caught at Babakajjuen as uttered by a canoe man from the lower province and has incontinently taken it to be a memento possibly of a defunct predecessor in his own craft. Dwellers on the shores of the rapid or lake referred to, may be expected to demand a return to the real form of its aboriginal name.

(To be Continued.)

WILD GEESE IN CANADA.

Wild geese are being slaughtered by the thousand at Beaver Lake, in the northwestern Canada. Two men recently killed 1,000 and dried the meat for winter use, and it is not unusual for the local gunners to bag 50 and 100 in a day's shooting.

The grave of Helen Hunt Jackson on Cheyenne mountain is covered with the cards of those who visited the place last summer.

Andrew Carnegie's new castle in the Alleghanies, which is to cost \$1,000,000, will be built entirely of undressed surface stone found on the place.

The other morning Jones got a letter from his son at school, as follows, Dear Papa, prepare to reward me. I am the first in orthograpy, "orthograpy," cried the father, "I ask how he would write that word, if he had only been second.

—Both the Marquis of Lansdowne and the Marquis of Lorne take a great interest in the Colonial Exhibition. The former pays frequent visits to it, and lately had long talks with the exhibitors. On the 3rd of September the Marquis of Lorne planted a Canadian walnut in the exhibition gardens.