

escaping the action of the air, and also that of the ice, which in this locality is never of great thickness because of the rapidity of the current. It must be understood that we do not assert that these identical stakes existed there in Champlain's time, although it is possible that some of them may be part of the original construction. It was probably used for fishing purposes long after the time of Champlain, and even after the destruction of the Hurons, for I am strongly inclined to suspect that a portion of the Mohawks settled down on the vanquished territory, and remained there a considerable time. If such was the case, the fence would be repaired from time to time, as circumstances required, without altering the *site* to any material extent. The stake which I had, had been pointed with an axe of considerable sharpness, as evidenced by the comparatively clean cuts made in the operation. Our present Indians, who are Ojibways, know nothing about them, except the tradition before mentioned. Mr. Snake is an old man, and he stated to me that the old Indians, when he was young, referred the whole construction, and its use, to the Mohawks. I have no doubt, if they are not molested, the remains will be in existence a century hence. I have only to add that a correspondent, Mr. A. F. Hunter, of Barrie, has suggested to me that possibly the old French name for Lake Simcoe, "*Lac aux Claies*," referred to this fence at the Narrows, as he has not met with any account of the origin of the term "*aux Claies*." I throw out this hint in the hope that perhaps some of your readers may be able to throw light on the subject.

If any of the readers of *THE CANADIAN INDIAN* should ever visit the picturesque and progressive town of Orillia, a walk of half-an-hour will take him to this classic spot where Champlain spent nine days, nightly entertained by the inhabitants of *Cahiague* with war-dances and banquetings; and which from its geographical position, and a great highway to the upper lakes, must have made it the scene of many sanguinary conflicts, as well as the more peaceful occupation of fishing, for the purpose of laying in their winter supplies of food.

THE MOUND BUILDERS.

A LOST RACE DESCRIBED BY DR. BRYCE, PRESIDENT OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

BONES. Of the bones found, the skulls were the most interesting. In some cases it would seem as if they alone of the bones had been carried from a distance, perhaps from a distant part of the mound-builders' territory, from a battlefield or some other spot. In some cases this was proved, by the presence in the eye-sockets and cavities of clay of a different kind from that of the mound, showing a previous interment.