

Township of Ross. Of Champlain and his party, Parkman writes in his graphic way : 'Their march was through a pine forest. A whirlwind had swept it, and in the track of the tornado the trees lay up-torn, inverted, prostrate, and flung in disordered heaps, boughs, roots and trunks mixed in wild confusion. Over, under, and through these masses the travellers made their painful way ; then, through the pitfalls and impediments of the living forest, till a sunny transparency in the screen of young foliage gladdened their eyes with the assurance that they had reached again the banks of the open stream.' Lake Coulonge, where Parkman supposes 'the banks of the open stream' to have been again reached, was in fact an important portion of the great bend avoided by leaving the Ottawa at Portage du Fort and pushing westward to Muskrat Lake and Muskrat River, by which route a short cut to the Upper Allumette Lake was presented.

I shall now describe more minutely, the instrument which has given rise to the present discussion. It is a thick brass circular disc, about five and a half inches in diameter, finely marked off towards the outer edge into 360 degrees in the usual way, the degrees in each quadrant numbered on an inner circle from one to ninety, starting in each case from a cardinal point. For lightness, a considerable portion of the disc in each of its quarters is cut out ; or more probably the whole was originally cast in this perforated condition. A moveable bar furnished with a sight and pointer at each end, revolves on a pivot passing through the centre of the disc. A ring attached to the rim by a double hinge, enabled the observer, at his pleasure, either to suspend the instrument for observation, or himself to hold it up ; when the hinges below the ring, allowing of a certain amount of motion in two directions, would enable him to get it into a position suitable for his purpose. At the point opposite to the ring is a small projection pierced through for the reception of a screw or tack, to temporarily fasten or steady the instrument when hung up by the ring on a staff or post. Or it may have been for the suspension of a weight to ensure with greater certainty a vertical position. Discernible on the outer edge are slight remains of two other projections now broken off, at equal distances to the right and left of the lower projection. These may represent *feet*, by means of which the instrument might occasionally be supported in an upright position on a level surface. Just above the perforated projection, the date 1603 is stamped, preceded and fol-