

formations at the higher and earlier stage, the present course of the river is more crooked there than in ordinary places. One of its largest deviations here is known as the "Big Bend." It is a significant feature in this part of the river (viz., in the middle canyon), the course of the river here having been deflected from the west by the old shore formations. The river passes through a broad ridge in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd concessions of Flos, and has cut its second, or middle canyon through this ridge. This barrier ridge rises much higher than the series of recent, raised shorelines on either side of it. Along its northerly edge was located the main Huron trail to the Tobacco Nation, and in still earlier times, when the waters of Georgian Bay, (and likewise those of the inland lakes), were higher than they are now, this belt of land or broad ridge which here intersects the course of the river, was also the rendezvous of many pre-Huron Indians who had their villages along its south edge, or the north margin of the next inland lake in Vespra township, as we shall presently see.

Vigo, at the 4th line of Flos, and Edenvale, at the Flos-Vespra town-line, on the outer and inner edges, respectively, of this barrier ridge, were the points most frequented by the Indians, just as they still are the leading places in the locality for their white successors, who have built bridges across the river at both places, but none between.

The course of the river through this ridge is a bend, having a direction the reverse of the large bend in the sand measures near the outlet. In the ridge it is such as to leave a considerable tract beyond its left bank in the southwest part of Flos. In this tract, a minor drainage basin, in which runs Doran's Creek, further subdivides the isolated territory in question into two, distinct parts. The more easterly of these two parts has its longer axis running south of west, and is cut by the present river; the other runs toward the Rapids in Sunnidale, near to where the aborigines had the other crossing of the river, as already noted. This drainage basin of Doran's Creek was probably an old blocked channel of the Nottawasaga, as the land on either side of it has the shapes and two directions peculiar to the other ridges formed in succession all the way from the river's outlet up to this place.

As we pass toward the interior of Flos, away from the river, we rise upon a belt of gently undulating country, and in its rear a shallow trough of flat land, but its altitude is higher than that of the flat ground near the river. Immediately north of Phelpston, and near the centre of the township, there is an extensive marsh in the trough just mentioned, containing 1,000 acres or more. It has an extreme length of fully three miles, and an extreme width in one direction of two miles. In the centre of this marsh there was once a shallow lake, but the Municipal Council of Flos removed this lake by artificial drainage in 1897, its outlet by the way of Marl Creek, having been cleaned out and deepened for that purpose. When the writer first knew the large marsh in question, before its drainage, it had the small lake near its centre, upon which boats were used. Flocks of wild ducks frequented its surface, and in the lake itself, fish of the pike tribes were common. Extending around the edge of this lake, there were wide tracts of rushes and coarse grass, amongst which pitcher plants were to be seen growing in the water; while around these tracts came a dense fringe of willows. Outside of the willows came the forest. In these suitable haunts, waterfowl and waders, (cranes, herons, etc.) used to breed. In the edge of the water, there was to be found, in considerable numbers, a species of black snake, which was confined, so far as this district is concerned, only to the marsh. In the surrounding forest, bears were occasionally seen, and deer were still accustomed to yard in the remotest parts of the marshy wilderness. There was plenty of