

ancient village sites, potteries and ossuaries. Each of these gentlemen too has made for himself a collection containing many valuable and some rare specimens. Near the mouth of the river Dr. McCallum is doing good work in making observations and in the preservation of all specimens. Midway between these points Dr. P. E. Jones, of Hagersville, is on the alert, and it is to his kindness that the Institute is indebted, not only for the information relative to the Baptiste locality, but for many courtesies extended to the representative of the Institute while the examination of the place was being made.

Dr. Jones, who had several times visited Baptiste's place, was convinced that the clay bed which here forms the right bank of Boston creek had been worked by the ancient natives for pottery-making purposes. A brief examination proved the correctness of the doctor's surmises, and further observation showed that the finest or best quality of clay being found at some distance below the top of the bank, the old pathway between the deposit and the level ground above could still be traced; and what proved of even more interest was the existence of a broad and comparatively level portion of the bank at the foot of the path, but some feet above the hole from which the clay was taken, as if the material when excavated had been placed here to be carried upwards either by the digger or by an assistant. The situation of the spot may be seen at the angle which would be formed by lines drawn from the roots of the two trees at the right of the diagram to meet in the lower bank (Fig. 2). On the top of the bank and extending westwards across part

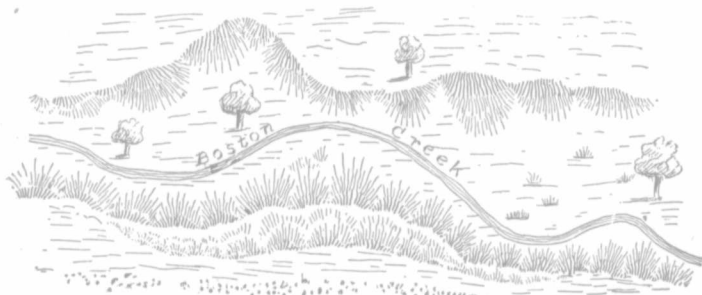


FIG. 2.—Tuscarora Village-site and Clay-bed.

of the adjoining farm a line of ash-beds could be traced by actual measurement for a distance of one thousand two hundred feet. Four Indians were employed for two days digging at various points on this village site, and the find was mainly of the usual character, except that on the Baptiste end were found three breast bones (Fig. 133), of some large fowl, which an Indian woman who was present stated had been used in twisting lines made from the fibre of basswood bark. On the Garlow farm, west of Baptiste's was found a granite boulder hollowed for grinding purposes.

It may be worthy of note that Powles Baptiste and the three other Indians who were employed, exhibited no superstitious fears in connection with their work, even when handling the bones of departed braves, for in one instance we came upon human remains.

A short time previous to our visit, Baptiste in excavating a cellar to the rear of his house, nearer the front of the lot, came upon a small ossuary containing seventeen skulls and some other bones. The skulls, he informed us, all faced outwards,