

known with regard to the numerous Huron sites of S. Simcoe, York and Ontario. It would appear from the table that they chiefly belong to a period preceding the sites of N. Simcoe.

There are references in the early French writers to an increase of population in the Huron tract (now North Simcoe) from which we may infer that what might be called a migration took place. Champlain and Le Caron in 1615 reckoned 17 or 18 villages in the Huron peninsula, with 10,000 persons. Brebeuf, in 1635—20 years later—found 20 villages, and about 30,000 souls. [*Relations* (Canadian edition) 1635, p. 33; 1636, p. 138.] Here is evidence of a rapid influx from some quarter into the sheltered peninsula of N. Simcoe, between the years 1615 and 1635.

The aborigines of any country are always found at the corner opposite to the point of entry of their invaders. This was the case with the early Celts of Britain, the Lapps of North Europe, the Basques of Southern France, and indeed with every race of conquered people known to history. It might therefore be expected that the Hurons would remove as far as possible from their enemies, the Iroquois; and it was in this position—against the northerly limit of land adapted to agricultural pursuits—that they were found by the early French.

These inferences from historical considerations have been fully confirmed by the table of sites given, from which it is evident that a removal from the sites of Ontario, York and S. Simcoe took place about the time the French first came.

In conclusion, it may be stated that there is another important feature of the N. Simcoe sites, not indicated in the table, and which though highly important, will be merely alluded to in this paper. The largest Huron village sites in the country are found there, and they are likewise post-French. It would appear from this that as danger from the invading Iroquois grew greater, the population became amassed into larger villages for safety.