

possibly we might read it all in French, for it was a long contest with nearly even chances that alone determined the French or English domination in the lake country of New York.

The St. Lawrence, the valley of the Mohawk, Oneida and Onondaga Lakes, and the Oswego River have all been frequent war-paths from the unrecorded days when scalps were taken by rival savage warriors, and now it seems that one of the earliest incursions of the present ruling race, was met and defeated on one of our highest and most commanding points, where, long ago, the silent forest crept over the blood-stained grounds, and the autumn leaves of many years fell quietly on the spot, while the same contest was swaying here and there, often on the plain that is overlooked from the points whence Champlain first saw the Indian stronghold.

Here under the renewed forest, the secret lay hidden for two hundred and sixty-two years, at last to be discovered ; and the old story is brought from the archives of France to rest on a quiet pond, where herons have stood undisturbed, and none have dreamed that a war cry ever arose in the solitude.