

and foot-paths on the northern side of the St. Lawrence. Thus did Champlain open up a drama whose first acts were successful, but whose tragic close was the utter ruin of the Huron nation ; and the complete failure and abandonment of the Jesuit missions.

Parkman says, " Here was the beginning of a long suite of murderous conflicts, bearing havoc and flames to nations yet unborn. Champlain had invaded the tiger in his den ; and now, in smothered fury, the patient savage would lie biding his day of blood."

But to return to our fishing ground. The Narrows presents much the same features as in Champlain's days, excepting where one railway bridge crosses it, and another for the accommodation of the travelling public, together with the dredging necessary for steamers and other craft. At one end, on the western shore, are a few houses, and conspicuous is the flag of the Red Cross hospital, which has lately been erected at this salubrious spot. But its fame as a fishing ground has long vanished ; bass may still be caught with the rod, or trolling ; and in the winter season, some scores of Indians and whites may be seen spearing herrings through holes cut in the ice. Still there is no doubt that at the time to which reference is made, all those lakes were literally swarming with fish.

Are there any remains to point out the exact locality where these stakes crossed the strait ? In answering this question in the affirmative, I would state that some years since, my friend Gilbert Williams, an Indian, informed me that he had seen very old stakes which were used by the Mohawks for catching fish. Some time after when I was writing out the story of Champlain, for one of our local papers, I was conversing with Charles Jacobs on the subject, who said he also had seen the stakes, and further that the locality was known to this day as *mitchekun*, which means a fence, or the place which was fenced or staked across. He said that if a strange Indian were to