

ated close to the landing-place of the portage leading northwards to Lake Toronto, *i. e.*, Lake Simcoe, along the valley of the river Toronto, *i. e.*, the Humber: and in this very despatch, M. de Longueuil uses both expressions. Speaking of a missing soldier who had recently been sent with despatches from the post of Niagara to the post of Fort Frontenac, via Toronto, he says; "the commandant at Niagara, M de la Levalterie, had detached a soldier to convey certain despatches to Fort Rouillé, with orders to the store-keeper at that post to transmit them promptly to Montreal. It is not known," he then adds, "what became of that soldier." "About the same time," he says, "a Mississauga from Toronto arrived at Niagara who informed M. de la Levalterie that he had not seen that soldier at the fort, nor met with him on the way. It is to be feared that he has been killed by the Indians, and the despatches carried to the English." In the same document from the pen of M. de Longueuil, we are informed that "the store-keeper at Toronto writes to M. de Vercheres, commandant at Fort Frontenac, that some trustworthy Indians have assured him that the Saulteurs (Indians of the Sault) who killed our Frenchman some years ago, have dispersed themselves along the head of Lake Ontario, and seeing himself surrounded by them, he doubts not but they have some evil design on his fort; there is no doubt but it is the English," he says, "who are inducing the Indians to destroy the French and that they would give a good deal to get the savages to destroy Fort Toronto, on account of the essential injury it does their trade at Chouéguen." We can form some idea of the amount of business transacted at Toronto, from the testimony of Sir William Johnson in 1767. "I have heard traders of long experience and good circumstances affirm," Sir William says, "that for the exclusive trade of the post (at Toronto) they would willingly pay £1,000 for one season, so certain were they of a quiet market from the cheapness at which they could afford their goods there."