

The first column of the table gives the townships. In the second is given the number of village sites so far recorded in each township. The third contains the number of village sites at which French relics have been found, and the relative percentage which these bear to the whole number recorded is carried out into the fourth. This is done for the purpose of comparing one township with another. The fifth, sixth, and seventh contain similar statistics relating to the ossuaries.

The townships are arranged in the table, beginning at Georgian Bay and descending southward. Bearing this fact in mind and glancing down the fourth column, it will be observed how rapidly the percentage of villages where French relics have been found falls off after leaving the first few townships in the remote north beside Georgian Bay. This was the district occupied by the Hurons in the time of the Jesuit missionaries of the seventeenth century. If we draw a line from east to west through Kempenfeldt Bay on Lake Simcoe, it will be seen that of all villages south of this line less than twenty per cent. have yielded French relics. The difference in the geographical distribution of these relics on the two sides of this line is made apparent by contrasting one representative township from each part, say Medonte and Innisfil. In Medonte 41 village sites have been entered in the catalogue, of which no less than 33 (or 80 per cent. of them) have yielded French relics; while of 30 village sites in Innisfil, only 5 (or 17 per cent.) have yielded French relics, and merely one or two isolated tomahawks in most of these five cases. There is a wide difference here—viz., between 80 per cent. and 17 per cent., and this difference of geographical distribution can only be accounted for by supposing that the larger part of the villages of Innisfil, as well as of the others south of the line just drawn, were occupied by Hurons before the arrival of the French traders. In York and Ontario counties there is but one case in each, so far as the writer has ascertained, of European relics having been found at Huron village sites, and in neither of these cases is the evidence very conclusive. Many European relics have been found at Algonquin sites in these two counties, and the two cases in question may be of relics lost by later Mississagas on the ground previously occupied by the Huron lodges.

Independent evidence of a similar character is furnished by the ossuaries. There is no proof of any French relics having been found in the ossuaries south of the line through Kempenfeldt Bay, that is in South Simcoe, York, and Ontario. But in North Simcoe the percentage runs as high as 74.

The classification affords us a means of arriving approximately at the date of Huron occupation of these parts of Central Ontario under consideration. The beginning of French intercourse with the Hurons may be said to have taken place in 1615, when Champlain made his celebrated journey to their country. From that year onward traffic between the French and Hurons was established. So that speaking in a general way, this date, 1615, is the dividing line between post-French and ante-French villages. Wherever French relics are found, in most cases it may be concluded that the village dates after 1615. The table therefore shows that the sites in N. Simcoe, near Georgian Bay, were mostly post-French, while the more southerly ones—those in S. Simcoe, York and Ontario—were chiefly ante-French.

The former statement might readily have been inferred from our historical data of the first half of the seventeenth century, without the assistance of archæology; but little of an historical nature has been