

McDuggan
11/10/56

THE CANADIAN JOURNAL.

NEW SERIES.

No. IV.—JULY, 1856.

DISCOVERY OF COPPER AND OTHER INDIAN RELICS, NEAR BROCKVILLE.

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Read before the Canadian Institute, February 16th, 1856.

Attention having been recently called to the discovery of ancient copper relics, and other traces of primitive aboriginal arts, on the shores of Lake Superior,* it may not be uninteresting to compare with such remains, others of the same class discovered far to the eastward of the regions which supply the metal from which such weapons and implements appear to have been fabricated.

In excavating the St. Lawrence Canal, at Les Galops Rapids, in the year 1847, a curious collection of Indian relics was brought to light, at one of the beautifully picturesque points on the River St. Lawrence, at the head of the first rapid, or cascade, met with in descending that river. Thus situated at a point where the free navigation of the upper part of the river is first interrupted, this place is likely to have been frequently visited in former times, as a spot where both Indians and voyageurs would be tempted to rest, or camp for the night, before venturing their canoes upon the rapids; and this may perhaps have had to do with the deposition of the relics, discovered in the process of excavating the Canal destined to overcome the impediments which nature had there opposed to the free navigation of the noble river.

* Ante, p. 225.