

kitchen-midden from the clay below, while the mould above the shell-heaps is from three inches to one foot in depth. These people, however, may have been driven back by the encroachment of the sea upon land in the rear of their former huts, which they had already cleared of trees and vegetable mould.

ETHNIC RELATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

Finally, as regards the origin of the people who made these kitchen-middens at Bocabec a few words may be said.

The habits, manners and customs of the people who were known as the aboriginal inhabitants of this country when Champlain discovered the Bay of Fundy have greatly changed through the corrupting influence of contact with the new comers. Enough of their old habits and mode of living remain, when considered in the light of the accounts that have come down to us from the early explorers, to establish the similarity of their habits and mode of living to that of the men of the Stone Age who lived at Bocabec. Furthermore, the indication of a conical form to the huts, which I think is sufficiently shown by the over-lapping of the kitchen-midden upon the sleeping-bench, and by the great width of the base of the doorway of the hut, point strongly to a resemblance between these huts and the well-known wigwam of the Indians.

The choosing of a smooth beach for the village site, the fact that they appear to have had canoes or boats of some sort to transport the vast quantities of clams which formed an important article of their diet, and which could not have been dug with ease or found in sufficient quantities in front of their village, for, as I have said, the principal clam-flats are at some distance from the village; the capture of fish which would not take the hook, but must have been taken by spear, harpoon, weir or net; the dependence of the people on hunting for the more acceptable variety in their food; the character of the rude pottery; the use of coarse woven fabrics, and a variety of other features of their culture and mode of life, are such as we know to have been common to them and the Indian tribes of Acadia.