

suffix **TOOK**, or **A-TOOK**, meaning **RIVER**, shortened to **T**, signifying **PLACE**. It is as if we were to say in English not **OROMOCTO RIVER**, but **THE OROMOCTO**. The locative suffix **K** by the way, was very commonly omitted by the French in adopting Indian place-names.

In the light of the history of the word it is evident that a better spelling than **OROMOCTO**, and one at the same time more consonant with its best local pronunciation, would be **ORAMUCTO**, which would have also the advantage of giving a more euphoniously-composed word—a variety of vowels being more pleasing than a monotony. But the spelling **OROMOCTO** has been fixed by over a century of the best usage and should therefore be retained as the standard form. Moreover, it has the highest official sanction, since it has been adopted by the Geographic Board of Canada.

OTHER EXPLANATIONS OF THE NAME.—The first attempt to explain the word that I have been able to find, occurs in a list of place names of Indian origin published by the geologist Gesner in the *New Brunswick Courier* for Nov. 18, 1837, where its meaning is given, without analysis, as **DEEP RIVER**. This explanation was adopted in local literature, where it occurs commonly; and it is given the endorsement of Edward Jack, who knew the Indians well, in an article of his upon place-names (*Journal of American Folk-Lore*, VIII, 1895, 204). The facts above given suffice, I think, to show that the word **DEEP** is here descriptive of canoe navigation, and is really in harmony, though incompletely, with the meaning **FINE RIVER**. I have myself given the meaning **GOOD RIVER** "in the sense of having plenty of water for canoe navigation" (*These Transactions*, II, 1896, ii, 259). The only other explanation I have found was given me by the late A. S. Gatschet, of Washington, a distinguished authority upon Indian matters, who suggested in a letter a possible connection with **WELAM**, meaning **SEA SALMON**; but his thought was based merely upon coincidence of the words and not upon any direct evidence.

SUMMARY.—The word **OROMOCTO** is certainly of Miamae Indian origin, a corruption of **WEL-A-MOOK'-TOOK**, and means **FINE RIVER**, in description of the attractive character of its lower course from the point of view of Indian interests.

Magaguadavic.

LOCATION AND APPLICATION.—The name of a river in southwestern New Brunswick, flowing into Passamaquoddy Bay from the north: also two lakes at its source: a railroad station near the lakes: and applied formerly, and still sometimes by old people, to the settlement which is now the town of St. George. A detailed description, with large-scale maps, of river and lakes is contained in a fully-annotated reprint of the journals of the first surveyors, published in the *Collections of the New Brunswick Historical Society*, III, 1909, 167, a work which gives also the Indian names of the principal branches, with comments thereon.

The word is invariably pronounced by residents of the region as if it were spelled **MAC-A-DAY'-VEE**, although it is spelled always in print, upon maps, in newspapers, etc., as **MAGAGUADAVIC**, or else in a form closely approximating thereto. The only exception to this spelling that I have noticed is a local abbreviation of **M'DAVY** for the Station by railroad men, though even the railroad company uses the full form in its time tables. The preservation of the cumbersome spelling in face of the simple pronunciation is a remarkable nomenclatorial phenomenon, which probably arose in an historical circumstance mentioned below.