

townships of Wilkes and Pentland are added.

This tract of land contains within its boundaries an immense volume of water in lake, river, brook, and marsh. The spring and autumn rains and heavy snows of winter, keep the fountain-heads of streams rising here continually replenished, the density of the forest, retarding evaporation, and the spongy layer of leaves and decaying vegetation which covers the ground, tending to maintain an equable flow of water throughout the year.

The name given to this national reservation is "The Algonquin Park."

At the time of the discovery of America the Algonquin Indians were lords of the greater part of what was formerly known as Canada, and principally inhabited the great basin of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers.

After their defeat in the St. Lawrence Valley by the Iroquois, they abandoned that valley and joined their kindred north and west. History finds them early in the sixteenth century

seated about the shores of Lakes Huron, Michigan, and Superior. They were divided into various bands, bearing, generally, some local name, and included over thirty different tribes.

The Nipissings, who are deemed the true Algonquins, by ancient writers, lived at Lake Nipissing. As this locality abounds in game and lies about midway between the Ottawa River and Lake Huron, it was, doubtless, a favorite hunting-ground for the roving tribes, and perhaps, also, the scene of many battles between bands of contending warriors ascending the Madawaska and Petewawa in the east and the Muskoka and the Maganetewan on the west. It seems fitting that a once great and powerful people, who in their savage manner held sway over this territory centuries ago, should bequeath their name to a part of it, which is now proposed to be maintained, as nearly as possible in the condition in which it was when they fished in its waters and hunted and fought in its forests.

