

As to its corruption, it is not without significance that I have heard it called locally PORTLOGAN, which Father Pacifique, in a letter, writes POTLOGAN.

POCUMCUS. The name of a small lake on the Scoodic, or West Branch of Saint Croix, chain in Maine. It appeared first in this form on a boundary map, from survey, in 1797 (*these Transactions*, VII, 1901, ii, 254); it is marked upon Wilkinson's map of 1859 as POKOMPKUS, though later Maine Maps have the older form. One's first thought must be that this POC, or POK, if not POKW meaning SHALLOW must be POK or POOK meaning NARROW; and this was the idea of the late A. S. Gatschet, who in a letter to me in 1898 made the word PUKAMKÉS'K, from PUK meaning A NARROWS or THOROUGHFARE, and AMKÉS meaning A LITTLE SANDY (or GRAVELLY) SPOT. A partially similar explanation was given by L. L. Hubbard for the obviously identical part POKUMKES of POKUMKESWAGAMOKSIS, next mentioned (*Woods and Lakes of Maine*, 209), though he makes the POKUM (which should read POGUMK) mean DRY SAND, evidently influenced by that usage in Micmac, as shown by his citation from Rand. Both Gatschet's and Hubbard's explanations, however, are purely speculative and made without any reference to any known characteristics of the places, though it happens to be a fact that Pocumcus Lake has a sand bar where it joins Grand Lake, as mentioned in the *Seventh Report . . . Maine Board of Agriculture* 1862, 303. On the other hand, they ignore a very remarkable and unusual geographical peculiarity which both lakes possess in common, namely, their principal inlets and their outlets lie close together, with nearly the entire lake extending off from the line between them, much as a bag hangs from its gathering strings. Furthermore, there is a little Pond, called COMPASS Pond, marked on Hubbard's map, on a small stream emptying into the west Branch of Penobscot a little above Pemadumcook Lake; and this Pond displays the same characteristic as Pokumcus and Pokumkeswagamoksis, though in somewhat less marked degree. The resemblance in name and unusual geographical relations points to identity of name in all three cases, COMPASS being a wholly probable simplification and familiarization of POCUMCUS. Thus is suggested a derivation from the name of some object having a form or structure comparable with the geographical peculiarity here presented. Such lakes are sometimes called "Pocket Lakes" in New Brunswick (there is a good one just above Big Lake on the Little Southwest Miramichi), and I sought a word in "pocket," "bag," etc., without success, until finally in Rand's *Micmac-English Dictionary*, 142, I found the word POOGOOGUMA00, as meaning the STOMACH or PAUNCH. I have not been able to find, as yet, the exact Maliseet or Penobscot equivalent of this word; but the relationship of Micmac to these tongues is sufficiently close to make me feel certain that a similar word exists in them. As everyone will recognize, the resemblance in form between the outlines of these lakes, and the profile of the paunch of an herbivorous animal like a Moose or a Deer, with the inlet gullet and outlet intestine not far apart and the main stomach bulging off to one side, is very close,—so close indeed as to leave in my mind little question as to the correctness of this explanation of the word. I have no doubt, accordingly, that POCUMCUS, POKUMKES, and COMPASS, all represent corruptions of the Penobscot equivalent of the Micmac POOGOOGUMA00, meaning PAUNCH, together with the remains of some old suffix meaning POND (perhaps an extreme condensation of GAMOOKSIS, meaning LITTLE LAKE) giving to the entire word the significance of LITTLE LAKE, or POND. Thus the name would mean PAUNCH-SHAPED POND.

It is likely that the root POOG in POOGOOGUMA00 is really POOK, meaning NARROW, in allusion to the narrowing where gullet and intestine join the paunch,