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ARCHAEOLOGY OF SCUGOG ISLAND.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE,
JANUARY 12TH, 1889, BY

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In the month of August last, the writer paid a visit to the Mississagua settlement on Scugog Island, Lake Scugog, for the purpose of obtaining some accurate and first-hand information regarding the history, folk-lore and language of the small band of Indians resident at that point. While there, he was enabled to obtain a number of archæological specimens and with these the present paper is concerned.

The basin of the chain of inland lakes between Lake Simcoe and the Bay of Quinte has been the scene of many conflicts between the Mississaguas (and Ojebways) and their hereditary enemies the Iroquois (Mohawks). Many spots have been pointed out where the Ojebways and Mohawks, typical representatives of the great Algonquin and Iriquois races, fought many a bloody fight, and even to-day the Indians tell in story the deeds of their combative forefathers; from the Mississaguas one can learn how in the past they broke the might of the Iroquois, and advancing into what is now the province of Ontario, settled there and were its chief possessors when the English came to occupy it in the closing years of the 18th century. For some time after this, occasional forays took place, a party of Mohawks burned an Ojebway village or vice-versa, but the power of the Iroquois was gone although their name (in Mississagua, Natowe) still has to the Ojebway ear a terrible sound.

The shore of Sturgeon Lake (connected with Lake Scugog by the Scugog river) is said to have been the scene of many battles between the Ojebways and the Mohawks, particularly at Bald Point and at Sturgeon Point.

At these places Indian burial grounds existed, which no doubt have long since been rifled of their valuable contents. *Nawigishkoke* (Mrs. Bolin) one of the most intelligent Indians at Scugog, informed me that Oak Orchard, Sturgeon Point was in ancient times the site of a Mohawk encampment and that large numbers of relics have been found there. The Mohawks also visited Scugog Island in the past. Mrs. Bolin showed me a spot—a gravelly point—about a mile from the Indian village, where, some time ago the washing away of the earth had exposed an earthen kettle which was subsequently destroyed. The kettle, she said, was somewhat different in make to those of her people, and she attributed it to the Mohawks.

In a farmer's field opposite the Indian village, Mrs. Bolin's son George found a beautiful white arrow head, since lost.

Some twenty years ago a grave was opened in the township of Cartwright opposite the end of Scugog Island, from which a knife and other relics were obtained. These Mrs. Bolin had seen and said the interment was no doubt made by some of her people.

In a hollow on the right-hand side of the road from Scugog to Port Perry (it is not known exactly where) an Indian chief of some distinction lies buried. When dying, he exclaimed that the "thunders" were coming after him.

On several farms on the Island relics have at various times been discovered; but little care having been taken of them, they have been mostly lost or destroyed.

Luckily, however, in a conversation with Mrs. Bolin, I learned that Mr. Stevens, a