

be assigned the crania specially examined by me, found along the shores of Lake Ontario, the north shore of Lake Erie, and on Lake Huron. When Champlain effected permanent settlements on the Lower St Lawrence in 1608, he found the north shores of the river occupied, below Quebec, by the Montagnets or Montagnards, and above it by the Ottawas, and other branches of the Algonquin stock. The country to the westward, constituting the great Canadian peninsula lying between Georgian Bay, the Lakes Huron, Erie, and Ontario, was chiefly, if not entirely, in the possession of the Hurons; while the Iroquois—to whom the latter were most nearly allied in social and physical characteristics, though at deadly enmity with them—occupied the south bank of the St Lawrence, and had their chief villages scattered among the clustering lakes, and the rivers, on the southern shore of Lake Ontario, which they continued to occupy and cultivate till driven out or exterminated in the revolutionary wars. The Iroquois and the Huron tribes were alike distinguished from many others, and especially from the neighbouring hunter tribes of the Algonquin nations, by considerable attention to cultivation, and by living permanently in large settled villages. But the Iroquois wars effectually arrested the progress of agriculture, and at length eradicated or drove out the Hurons from their country between Georgian Bay and Lake Ontario, where they were replaced by rude Algonquin tribes formerly lying to the north of them.

The Hurons, then, and in very modern years the Algonquins, but more especially the former, are the occupants of the country immediately to the north of Lakes Erie and Ontario, whose remains are to be looked for in the Indian graves of this district. Of these tribes Latham remarks: "The Iroquois and Algonquins exhibit in the most typical form the characteristics of the North American Indians, as exhibited in the earliest descriptions, and are the two families upon which the current notions respecting the physiognomy, habits, and moral and intellectual powers of the so-called Red Race are chiefly founded."* In many respects, however, they presented a striking contrast. The Algonquin stock, represented by the modern Chippeways,

* *Varieties of Mankind*, p. 333.