

somewhere in Oro or Orillia. After remaining there for a while to collect their forces, the party carry over land for three leagues to a small lake, which is connected by a narrow place with a large one twenty-six leagues round, and crossing the large lake, which, of course, is Lake Simcoe, they make a portage of ten leagues (really about half that distance) to another lake, below which is a fall, and from whence flows a river, which, after a course of sixty-four leagues, falls into the great lake of the Entouhonerons. Champlain describes this river, the course of which they followed, as running through beautiful lakes and a fine country, formerly thickly inhabited and cultivated, but at the time of his visit entirely deserted on account of the wars. This mention of extensive cultivation amongst the Indians is somewhat foreign to our notions, but it must be remembered, that though the Algonquin tribes were a wandering race of hunters, the Hurons and Five Nation Indians are always described as cultivating the soil, and living in permanent villages; and it is one of the hardships complained of by the missionaries, that they could rarely get any meat, but lived principally upon sagamité, with occasionally some fish. Champlain says that on their route they had five portages, some of which were four or five leagues long, whereas the only long carrying place between Balsam Lake and the Bay of Quinte is that from Mud Lake to Peterborough, about seven miles. This makes me suspect that they did not follow the course of the main river, but, being desirous of concealment, kept in the back country, and carrying over into the lakes of Belmont and Mar-mora, re-entered the Trent by Crow River. However this may be, they reach the Lake of the Entouhonerons, cross its eastern extremity, out of which the St. Lawrence flows, and after coasting along for some distance, leave their canoes, and make a four-days journey through the woods, crossing on their way a river, which comes from a large lake, (evidently Oncida Lake,) and so reach the village of the Iroquois, which was their destination. Being repulsed, however, and Champlain himself wounded, they retreat to their canoes, re-cross the lake, and ascend a river for twelve leagues, which, after a portage, brings them to a large lake ten or twelve leagues in extent. The description accords very well with Rice Lake, but it conveys the impression that it was not the same route by which they descended, which strengthens my conjecture as to their former course, for I know of no other large lake they could have reached in this manner, Longborough Lake lying too far out of their course. Here they remained hunting till the frost enabled them to return home over the ice. During the winter Champlain visited some tribes farther south, one of which, the Tobacco-growers, seem to have been located about Guelph; and he had intended pushing on in the