

Bay in question; and, continuing his course, landed at length near the present town of Penetanguishene, in the territory of the friendly Huron nation. Here he was received with the most marked demonstrations, and was entertained by a succession of pagan feasts and dances as he went from one village to another.

Two years before this, Champlain had essayed a journey up the Ottawa, but, deceived and disappointed, had returned to Montreal. It was on this expedition that he lost his astrolabe. This instrument was afterwards recovered; but, unfortunately some 250 years too late to be of any service to the redoubtable explorer. It was found in Ross Township, Renfrew, in 1867, the date and place of its manufacture being still impressed upon it, viz. ; "Paris, 1603."

After spending a month in Huronia, which, by the way, embraced the north-west portion of the modern county of Simcoe, Champlain set off with a body of Hurons to make war upon their sworn and implacable foes, the ferocious Iroquois. This necessitated an excursion still further to the south. It was now that he crossed Lake Ontario, which he was the first white man to see ; and which was reached by way of Lake Simcoe, Balsam Lake, and the Trent river. Returning in December, after many severe encounters, he was glad to secure even the rough shelter of the long Huron wigwams. "Smoke choked and blinded him, children shrieked and played lawlessly around him, fleas bit him, and dogs nosed his sleeping form, but in spite of