

method which Champlain describes, when the Indians were hunting deer; that is by staking out a large space in the woods, with an angle into which the game was driven. It is not difficult to account for the stakes lasting for so many years when we consider that the tops were under the surface of the water, thus escaping the action of the air, and also that of the ice, which in this locality is never of great thickness because of the rapidity of the current. It must be understood that we do not assert that these identical stakes existed there in Champlain's time, although it is possible that some of them may be part of the original construction. It was probably used for fishing purposes long after the time of Champlain, and even after the destruction of the Hurons, for I am strongly inclined to suspect that a portion of the Mohawks settled down on the vanquished territory, and remained there a considerable time. If such was the case, the fence would be repaired from time to time, as circumstances required, without altering the site to any material extent. The stake which I had, had been pointed with an axe of considerable sharpness, as evidenced by the comparatively clean cuts made in the operation. Our present Indians, who are Ojibways, know nothing about them, except the tradition before mentioned. Mr. Snake is an old man, and he stated to me that the old Indians, when he was young, referred the whole construction, and its use, to the Mohawks. I have no doubt, if they are not molested, the remains will be in existence a century hence."

A paragraph in the *Orillia Packet* of June 21, 1889, affords some further information upon the important fishing station:—"During his stay here, Mr. A. C. Osborne, of Penetanguishene, accompanied by Mr. Joseph Wallace, sr., visited Mr. F. Gaudaur, and they made a most interesting discovery. A copy of Champlain's journal describes the method by which the Indians took fish in 1615. They had rows of stakes driven into the bottom of the Narrows, in such a way as to corral the fish in passing from one lake to the other. In this manner enough fish for the commissariat during the expedition in which they engaged against the Iroquois, were taken in five or six days. When this part of the journal was read to Mr. Gaudaur, he took his visitors to where the rows of stakes could be seen under water. The Ojibways, he said, found these stakes there when they came a hundred and fifty or eighty years since, knew what they were for, but did not use them. They were in large numbers, and at one time extended quite across the Narrows, but very many were thrown out in dredging the present channel. The stakes are of tamarac. Mr. Osborne secured two—one had evidently been put down to replace another at a date subsequent to the other, which was soft, like cheese, when pulled out. The top is desiccated, and is covered with slime. Though only some six inches were visible they extend a long distance into the mud. Mr. Osborne believes that the older stick is one of those there when Champlain encamped at the spot. Mr. Gaudaur says that these under-water "fences" probably suggested the Ojibway name of Orillia, or the Narrows—Michikaning; "The Place of the Fence."

Following the publication of the foregoing paragraph, the present writer communicated a letter to the *Orillia Packet* of July 5, 1889, suggesting that the early French name of Lake Simcoe, viz., Hurdle