

of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence of 1757, apparently taken from French sources with a simple misprint of H for U, was adopted naturally enough on the next chart of this region, that of DesBarres of 1777; and the great prominence of Des Barres' chart, published in his superb work *The Atlantic Neptune*, fixed this aberrancy of spelling as the standard form for charts not only with Des Barres' immediate followers, but even down to this very day. Meantime various other English records have such forms as NIPISQUID (1761, *Collections*, above-cited, II, 1905, 365) and NEPISSEQUIT (*op. cit.* II, 1809, 128). The earliest New Brunswick map on which the word occurs is Bonnor's of 1820, (the first ever published of the Province as a unit), which has NEPISGWET, while Lockwood's fine map of the Province, of 1826, has NEPISGUIT, which was adopted by all the best maps thereafter,—by Baillie, 1831, by Wilkinson, 1859, by Loggie, 1885, and by the later sheets of the Geological Survey,—thus making it the standard form in New Brunswick. Occasionally, however, some map or document, influenced obviously by the illegitimate form of the charts, has NIPISGHIT, or NIPISGUIT; and among the more recent and prominent of these publications are those of the Geographic Board of Canada, which has, by some oversight, adopted the latter form. Yet the best New Brunswick usage for nearly a century, the earliest historical use in the French documents, and the principles of harmony of pronunciation (a diversity of vowels being easier to sound and more pleasing to hear than a monotony), all combine to establish NEPISGUIT as the best form.

ANALYSIS OF THE WORD.—The Micmac Indians still living in New Brunswick, including a small settlement at the mouth of the River, all recognize the word as belonging to their tongue, and give its native form without hesitation. As I have taken it down at various times from different Indians, (quoting exactly my notes) this form is WIN-PEG-IJ'-A-WIT, or WIN-PAG-EEJ'-OO-IK, or WIN-PEG-I'-JOO-IK, the G being always hard. Rand, the eminent Micmac scholar, gives the forms WĪNĒGĪJ'ŌŪK (*First Reading Book in the Micmac Language*, 84), and WĪNEPUGĪJOITK (*Micmac-English Dictionary*, 192). These forms are all so closely alike as to make it certain that we possess the aboriginal form of the word, which may best be expressed, in a standard spelling, as WIN-PEG-IJ'-OO-IK, the G of course being sounded hard. Comparing, now, this form with that of the Jesuit Fathers, it is evident that the differences consist only in minor features. Thus, the early French NEPEGIGOOIT omits the preliminary vowel sound expressed by WI, a very natural result of the tendency to abbreviation in actual use, but interpolates a separative E between the N and P, which the Indians themselves must sometimes do, as one of Rand's forms, above cited, clearly shows. But the most important difference consists in the transposition of the hard and soft sounds of the G and J. Such transposition, however, is easy and common enough, and, once adopted by some early authority, is followed without question by all others thereafter. We have a conspicuous modern example of the same phenomenon in another part of this very same word, for Cooney, in his *History of Northern New Brunswick and Gaspé*, of 1832 (page 190), gives the Indian form of the word as WINKAPIGUWICK, transposing the P and the first G sounds, and his form has been followed by later writers, e.g., by Gesner (*New Brunswick*, 197) by Lanman (*Adventures in the Wilds of the British American Provinces*, II, 25) by Dionne (*Le Canada Français*, II, 527) and doubtless by others. The use of a final locative T instead of K is due to confusion of the two very similar sounds.

Turning now to the meaning of the word, the Indians again are in agreement. One of the prominent Micmaes gave it to me as VERY CROSS RIVER, in the sense of "bad tempered," as I have noted in *these Transactions*, II, 1896, ii, 256. Rand