

and thus was saved the chief post on the upper lakes.

The North-West Company had a schooner on Georgian Bay called the *Nancy*, which was employed in the

fur trade, then so extensive in the district. Having learned that Lieut. Miller Worsley, of the British navy, with the *Nancy*, was at the mouth of the Nottawasaga River, Sinclair next

turned his attention in this direction. But here also he was doomed to meet with disappointment. Lieut. Worsley had been informed by a messenger of the blockade at Mackinac, and in anticipation of an attack on his own position, began to erect a block-house, about two miles up the river. In a few days the American captain and his vessels arrived at the Nottawasaga, and attacked the small party of British at the place. The brief

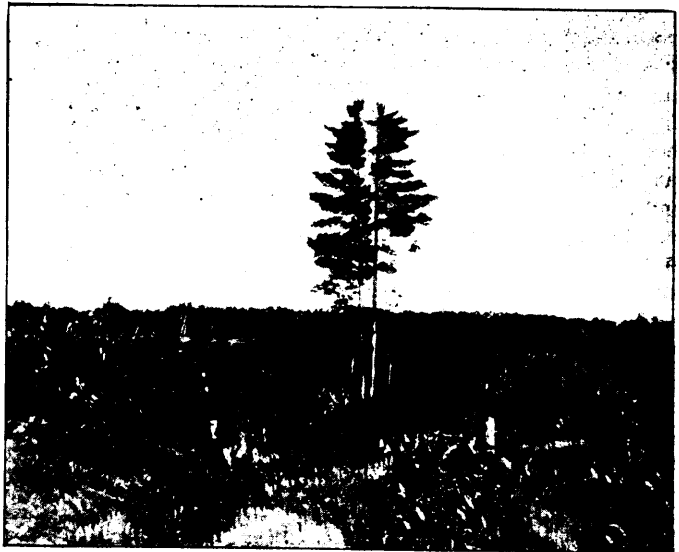


AT THE "HIGH DUMP, NOTTAWASAGA RIVER.

This was the scene of a skirmish in 1814.

account of the engagement, given by an old author (James, in his *Naval History of Great Britain*), will suffice to show what took place:

"The *Nancy* was lying about two miles up the Nottawasaga, under the protection of a block-house, situated on the south-east side of the river, which here runs parallel to, and forms a narrow peninsula with the shore of Gloucester Bay (Nottawasaga Bay). This enabled Captain Sinclair to



LOOKING EAST ON THE OLD PORTAGE ROAD, AT THE RAVINE, SEVENTH LINE OF VESPRE, NEAR BARRIE, ONT.

This road was opened in 1814, but has been long unused. The road followed the depression shown in the foreground.