

heathendom beyond. The residue of the confederacy dispersed far and wide. "We have seen with astonishment," exclaims Charlevoix (i. 170,) "one of the most numerous nations, and the most warlike on the continent, and the most esteemed of all for their wisdom and understanding, disappear almost entirely in a few years."

The early history of the region which surrounds Lake Simcoe is thus, we see, associated with the annals of the City of Quebec and its environs. The villages of Lorette still tell of the Hurons of these parts. But the Lake Simcoe region is much more intimately connected with the history of the City of Toronto. The name TORONTO is wholly due to the circumstances of the Lake Simcoe region at the time of the existence of the Franciscan and Jesuit mission in that quarter. The name "Toronto" did not spring from any matter or thing appertaining to the locality in which the City of Toronto now stands. If we look at a map of Canada and observe the triangular area shut in by the waters of the Ottawa Lake Nipissing and French River on the east and north; by the waters of the St. Lawrence and Lakes Ontario and Erie on the south; and by the waters of Lakes St. Clair and Huron and Georgian Bay on the west—we shall see that Lake Simcoe lies at its centre or focus as it were. In accordance with this physical fact, we find that Lake Simcoe had become in the year 1615 a marked rallying point, a grand rendezvous, a distinguished "place of meeting," for the Huron tribes and their allies; and hence arose the expression which came at length to be applied to it geographically, namely, TORONTO—a word explained by Gabriel Sagard in his *Dictionary of the Huron Tongue* (Paris, 1632), to mean, in French, *Beaucoup*, much, or plenty. Under the form *Toronton*, it is applied by him to persons as well as to things, as in the phrase "He has killed a number of S. (say Sonnon-touons or Senecas)—*Toronton S. ahouyo*. So that taken as