

which cover a much longer period comprising in all nearly three centuries—from about 1560 to 1838.

Though an inheritor of the history of these persons, I have sought to set forth their claims and the facts as impartially as I could, and to adduce the proofs.

II. CAUSES OF THE INVASIONS

The war against New France derived its origin from the fall of Hochelaga, an aboriginal event which took place about 1550-60. Somewhere about 1400, the Hochelagans, a Huron-Iroquois people, had established themselves on the Island of Montreal and in the surrounding country, having broken off from the Huron race, then or soon afterwards centred on the eastern shore of Lake Huron. They had forgotten their ancestry, were established on good terms with the surrounding Algonkin peoples and were visited by Jacques Cartier in 1535 at their palisaded town the site of which is opposite the present McGill University grounds. About 1550-60 trouble arose with the Algonkins, who seem to have called in the Hurons to their aid. The latter, coming from the west, besieged and burnt the town of Hochelaga with the result of driving out the Hochelagans altogether from the valley of the St. Lawrence towards Lake Champlain (1).

Thus was kindled the strife which was the beginning of the terrible Iroquois wars of New France.

(1) See Hochelagans and Mohawks, by the writer in the proceedings of the Royal society of Canada. Vol. IV, Second series.