

game for the native red men of ancient times, and even for the Indians of modern days. But all this was changed when the drainage came, and with it the removal of the surrounding forest.

A few miles distant to the northeast of this large marsh is the valley of the River Wye, which flows out of Orr Lake at an altitude the same as that of Lake Simcoe, (viz., 720 ft.) and that of many other small lakes in the district. In the basin of the Wye, the land is unusually flat. The timber of the original forest consisted mostly of water elm, from which the locality came to be known first as the Elm Flats, and later as "Elmvale." The meandering Wye so nearly encircles Elmvale, that it is almost impossible to enter the village by road without crossing the stream. In such flat ground, Indian remains have not been, and we need not expect they will be found in any considerable quantity. French's Hill, in the northeast corner of the township, is an eminence which makes a conspicuous landmark in the view for many miles around, its highest parts rising about 280 feet above Orr Lake and the Wye River.

In the east and southeast parts of the township there is also some high ground. On the lofty plateau of "Upper" Flos, in the east of the township, there are no wells, rainwater alone furnishing the only water supply of many of the farmers, all of them, indeed, with but two or three exceptions. Wells having a depth of about 200 feet have to be sunk, and even these are almost unworkable. Yet this is one of the most fertile parts of the district,—"as fruitful as a garden,"—consisting, as it does, of so-called boulder clay, or a modified till. The prominent raised shoreline at 790 feet above sea level girdles these hills and ridges along the east side of the township.

#### THE VILLAGE SITES IN FLOS.

Those village sites of Flos, about which some evidences have come to my attention, number 43; and when compared with many in Medonte, Tay and Tiny townships, they are found to be generally smaller, yet they form an instructive and important part of the whole Huron group. We may divide the Flos village sites into Huron and Pre-Huron; the former, again, into historic and prehistoric; and thus we have altogether three classes, viz., Historic Huron, Prehistoric Huron, and Pre-Huron, passing in order from the most recent to the earliest. Most of the Huron sites in the township are near the trails. Other sites of smaller size and seemingly of less importance, belonging apparently to the Pre-Huron class, have straggling positions in the other parts of the township that are distant from the trails of Huron times, and were probably of earlier date than the Hurons. Numerically, the Pre-historic villages, whether early Huron or Pre-Huron, constitute about two-thirds of the entire list.

In the vicinity of the Nottawasaga River there are several sites, and they appear to belong to different periods, as we might expect them to do. There is a wide tract of flat land in the northwestern part of the township, near the river, as already noted, and extending away from it, where village sites are scarce, or even entirely wanting in some places. Along the lot 20 sideroad, for example, there was apparently no crossing from the third line to the eighth line, where Indians could get dry footing in summer time, when the forest covered the land.

In the centre of the township, north of the Phelpsston Marsh, there is low undulating country, which seems to have been inhabited by tribes earlier than the Hurons. There are not many actual sites of these Pre-Huron tribes to be found, but their gouges, roller pestles, stone axes, and other pre-historic implements, unmistakably proclaim their presence in this district.