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Saving

NOTES ON AN OLD INDIAN
ENCAMPMENT.

By PROF. W. L. GOODWIN, D., Sc.

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Notes on an Old Indian Encampment.

By Prof. W. L. GOODWIN. D., Sc.

Cape Tormentine is the general name for a group of headlands forming the part of New Brunswick nearest to Prince Edward Island. On Jourmain Island, now joined to the mainland by salt marsh, is Money Point, the one of these headlands selected as the point of departure for the proposed tunnel to connect New Brunswick with Prince Edward Island. The coast in this neighborhood seems to have been a favorite camping ground for the Micmacs. Stone implements of all sorts are found in considerable numbers. Five or six very good axes were found last summer. Arrow-heads are, I believe, not often found. The axes and other cutting and scraping implements are made of diorite, boulders of which are quite common along the shores of Cape Tormentine, although rather rare inland. The red Permian sandstone is here rather soft, and yields rapidly to the action of salt water. The shores are thus undermined, and the overlying boulder clay is brought down. The diorite boulders are thus strewn along the shore, intermingled with slabs and rounded fragments of sandstone, granite boulders, etc. From the number of half-finished implements found, it would seem that the aborigines visited this place for the purpose of manufacturing. There is to be seen on the shore of Jourmain Island a large diorite boulder, weighing several tons, which has evidently served as a source of material. It is easy to see that pieces have been split off. The upper surface is quite rough and new as compared with less accessible parts. The operation of splitting must have been very difficult with the means

at the disposal of the Indians. This diorite takes a beautiful polish, which brings out the colours of the feldspar and the hornblende which compose it. It is quite evident, however, that the fashioners of these stone implements were a very inferior race. Their workmanship is of the rudest. Perhaps the comparative scarcity of arrow-heads has some significance in this respect. A beautifully wrought arrow-head of milky quartz was found last September quite near the surface in Baie Verte (about 20 miles westward from Cape Tormentine). This, however, I imagine to belong to a later age. In a cove between Money Point and a bluff headland upon which Cape Tormentine light stands to be found the camp-ground of these rude savages. The washing away of the shore has exposed a vertical section of a shell-midden, and, not far away, of a fire-place. These are about 18 inches below the present surface. The shells are mostly those of the edible mussel (*Mytilus edulis*), with a few large whelks (*Lucina heros*?). These shell-fish are still very plentiful along the shores. The site of the place is marked by ashes, small pieces of charcoal, "burned" stones.

Here in this quiet cove, sheltered from the north wind by the highland of Money Point, at a place where the land sloped gently down towards the sea, and the sandy beach free from rocks offered a safe landing place for their canoes, the savages built their wigwams, replenished their stock of implements, and meanwhile lived upon mussel and whelk with perhaps an occasional striped bass; although the vigorous fish would in all likelihood be too strong for the imperfect lines and hooks.