

RICH IN INDIAN RELICS

THE THOUSAND ISLAND SECTION IS MOST INTERESTING

The Trail From Tribal Headquarters Down State to The Great Waters Traced With Ease.

Observer in On-the-St. Lawrence, Clayton, N. Y.

The first summer resorters at the Thousand Islands had history given account of, were the Iroquois Indians, whose implements of peace and war, scattered along the way and excavated by the white man's plow, are positive identification marks of their principal route from tribal headquarters, near the central part of the state, to the St. Lawrence. For now many centuries before the coming of civilization to America, it was the habit or fashion of the savage population to make annual trips through trackless wildernesses to reach and spend a few months upon the fertile banks and islands of the great waters, there are none who may even attempt a guess.

The main trail from the Black River valley was in the direction of French Lake, and from there across the town of Lyme near Champlain and to where the village of St. Lawrence is now located, and from thence to Clayton upper bay, near the present site of French Creek bridge. That trail seems to have been selected as along higher lands to avoid swampy territory, and all along the route to the river there are quantities of relics have been and are every year being found.

Those relics, including those possessed by village residents and farmers along the route, would make an interesting exhibit of stone pipes and axes, spear arrow heads, beads, bone awls and fish hooks.

The pipes were generally carved from solid stone, and of flint spear and arrow heads, there is exhibition of workmanship that modern stone cutters say they cannot even conjecture how or with what tools it was done. Steele's, or Herriek's point, as the land along shore below the village has long been known, was once the site of an Indian camp, as has been proven by quantities of relics amounting almost to bushels that for centuries have reposed under the soil to be turned up to sunlight in cultivation of the soil.

From Clayton's upper bay the journey down the river and to the islands was by way of canoes. At Spicer Bay many relics have been found, and at Fishers Landing, and back again along Mullet Creek, all sorts of Indian implements have been found; and even now a spade may hardly be pushed into soil that has never been cultivated without bringing up fragments of pottery and stone arrows and spears.

There seems to have been no trail across the town of Orleans, probably on account of the many swamps and rocky ledges back from the river; and from Fishers Landing for some distance down river but little in the way of relics has ever been found.

The foot of Grindstone Island and along the shores of Eel Bay was a popular summer camping ground of the red man, as relics have been found at every landing place, especially at Spenser Point, and the Big Hill, where a few years since a pipe was found which Dr. Beauchamp, of Syracuse, probably the best informed as to Indian history of any in our state, has pronounced as not less than 400 years old.

The only sample of perfectly preserved Indian pottery to ever have been found in this section was by Mike Lalonde, a laborer engaged in construction of a road on Murray Hill Park. At the north side and near the head of the island a large flat stone was in the way and overturned making a large bowl of undoubted Indian make and without flaw or crack was reposing bottom upward, and the finder, not realizing its value, sold it for a trifling sum. At Grand View Park, across Eel Bay, it has been said that Indian bowls and rude ornaments of beaten gold have been found in years past. The soil there being sandy, there is probability of a burial ground of luckless aborigines who departed this life at a summer camp far from permanent homes.

There have been many attempts at the manufacture of counterfeit Indian pottery, and there is no doubt but that there is considerable such that is supposed by purchasers to be the genuine stuff. Experts may determine, with but little inspection, which is the real and which the fake. Microscopic examination reveals the ingredients of the compound used by Indians as clay, and finely crushed clam shells and the white flint like

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Men Looked at Wealth In the Face for Years Without Recognizing It

THE papers lately have been talking about a rectory through the ceilings and walls of which crude petroleum oozes, and for a time it was thought that the good vicar had been sleeping, if not upon a gold mine, upon something quite as valuable—a prospective oil gash, such as in America and on the Caspian have produced millions of pounds' worth of petroleum.

And this is not so impossible as it may seem. One of the biggest oil fields in America was for two generations occupied by the buildings and fields of an ordinary farm, through which ran a creek which issued from the ground in a remote corner of the estate.

The farmer had always been troubled with what he called the "leak," and had put a plank across the little ruiet to keep it back. An oil prospector, after the farmer's death, found that the seum was petroleum, or mineral oil, and that land became as valuable as if it had been a rich gold field.

Some years ago a French-Canadian rancher was rambling about a distant part of his land, when he noticed a piece of rock which glistened in the sun. Out of curiosity he picked it up and took it home with him. Its weight convinced him that it was mineralized rock, and he took it to a specialist, who found it to be almost pure silver. Since then that ranch has yielded between fifty and sixty million ounces of silver.

The discovery of gold in Putu, Chile, was just such another hazardous affair. A poor man bought an old tumble-down shack, and while strengthening the foundation, he turned up a stone which struck him as being very weighty. He pulled the old house down and began digging, and discovered \$125,000 worth of gold. To-day it is one of the richest mines in Chile.

About a quarter of a century ago, two prospectors in the bushland of Western Australia had put up their tent for the night, and determined to trek back to Perth next morning, as their quest had proved fruitless. One of them was aroused from sleep by the restlessness of his horse, picked up the stone, and, going out to see what was the matter, he tripped in the darkness over a boulder, which proved on examination to be almost pure gold. That was the beginning of Coolgardie.

The goose that laid the golden egg has been squallied on a poultry farm at Santa Barbara. Everybody knows how poultry pick up small grains of stone and sand, and in the crops of the chickens killed for the table we

FOUND SMALL BUGGETS, WHICH LED TO THE DISCOVERY THAT THE FARM WAS A GOLD MINE.

The discovery of Africa diamonds is a similar romance of sleeping for years on wealth beyond the dreams of avarice. In 1867 John O'Reilly was on his way from the interior and stopped for the night at the house of a Boer named Van Nick erck. He saw the children playing on the floor with some pretty pebbles they had picked up, and O'Reilly said: "These might be diamonds!" He had one of the pebbles in his hand, and the Boer said it was a diamond, that there were lots on the farm, and he might have it and wear a carat.

O'Reilly said he would take it to Cape-Town, and if it proved of value he would give his host half the profits. On his long journey he stopped at Colerburg at the hotel, and showed the men he met his stone, and scratched glass with it. The fellow laughed and scratched glass with their gun flints, and threw the bright pebble out of the window. O'Reilly recovered it and got it to an expert, who announced that it was in truth a diamond of 22 carats.

O'Reilly, like the honest Irishman he was, fairly divided the £100 he sold his diamond for with Nickereck, when he went up-country again, and the Boer remembered that he had seen an immense stone of the same kind in the hands of a Kafir witch-doctor. He found the fetish-man, gave him five hundred sheep, a number of horses, and nearly all he possessed for the stone, and sold it to the next day for £10,000. This was the famous Star of South Africa.—Parrson's Weekly.

SITTING A HORSE.

Rough-riding Westerner Talks About Royalty.

Pictures of the country's recent guest, the Prince of Wales, engaged in assistant cup punching in the West and riding a Western saddle in the Western fashion, have been generally in the newspapers. Perhaps even in this age of motor-buses there are horsemen enough still left to share the interest in the exhibition expressed by a Canadian writing in the Daily Mail of London.

"Yesterday," he writes, "I was comparing a photograph of the Prince of Wales taken in Hyde Park as another of him taken during his tour in Canada. In the first he sits in a hunter on an English hunting saddle. He has the seat of a bo cavalier. In the second he sits on a Canadian bronco on a California stock saddle (a stock saddle has high cantle, a horn, and is ridden with a long stirrup). His heels are up and he is 'all of a hump'."

"Horsemen in Canada smiled indulgently at the prince's father when as the Duke of Cornwall and York he made similar tour to the east. I soon recently made and first put it across Canadian horsemanship. Englishmen could not sit a horse, they proclaimed. They were all right in hacking about, but when it came to riding—real riding—they were in it."

"I recall well the day the rider-master strode into the Royal North-west Mounted Police stables at Regina and announced that he was looking for a high-stepper to carry the hair to the throne. No 'mean' tricks, some sense and plenty of style was what he called for."

"I was in the rough-riding squad at the time, and we paraded a few of the 'perfect ladies' that we had in the stables. He chose a bay mare who had brains enough to do almost anything except talk, and told me to school her and get her into shape for royalty."

"Some weeks later the duke—today's King—rode through the lines on that same little bronco and inspected the Northwest Mounted Police. He inspected us casually, I am afraid, for she was giving him a lot to do. He did not understand the stock saddle and the biting."

"We, on the other hand, inspected his Royal Highness critically. We liked his horse but we did not approve of his seat. Englishmen certainly could not sit a horse."

"Many years later we came to the war. And we saw Englishmen, many of them sitting on horses. At first we were inclined to sneer. There was nothing about the management nor the handling of horses they could teach us."

"But we worked side by side with crack British cavalry regiments, and they kept their horses in as good 'fettle' as we did, and seemed to make longer marches with as little fatigue, we began to wonder if, after all, there might not be something in the English seat and the English saddle."

"Finally our lot got cut up a bit and for reinforcements we got to Household Cavalry horses with universal saddles. And our boys looked 'all of a hump' for a week or two; that sitting a 'mean' horse in a universal seat takes a horseman. Sitting the same horse in a stock saddle is like sitting in an easy chair."

"So now we agree that Englishmen are something more than park riders, and we do not smile indulgently when we see the young prince 'all of a hump' on a bronco."

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Japanese Wireless.

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