



Big and Little Sand Points, on the west limit of Constance, or Sand Bay, on the south shore of Lake Deschênes, in the township of Torbolton, Carleton County, Ontario, and the sandy beach, on the east side of Black Bay, running northward from McCook's wharf, in the township of Eardley, Ottawa County, Quebec, seem to have been important gathering places of the Indians, for many years before the advent of Europeans. Even within the memory of some of the older people, now living in the neighbourhood, Big Sand Point was occupied every summer by camps of Indians, of various Iroquois tribes, who had traditions of their forefathers having made a camping ground of this place during the French régime.

#### BIG SAND POINT.

A long, narrow spit of sand running about one hundred and fifty yards out into the lake, at low water, and lying within the angle formed by the western shore of Constance Bay and the south shore of the main river, and behind this, above high-water mark, a large dune of more or less drifting sand, that maintains its height, north-westerly, in a considerable ridge or hog's-back, for about two hundred yards along the river front, until it lowers away into the moderately high sandy banks of the lake—such is Big Sand Point.

On a former visit to this place, in 1912, my son—Edwin Sowter—now of the 38th Batt. Royal Ottawas—discovered an Indian fire-place, containing fragments of pottery, on the sand dune facing the main river, about fifty yards from the easterly end of the ridge. This turned out to be one of the outlying fire-places of a prehistoric Indian village.

In 1914, in company with my son Tom, I again camped at this point. Nothing was found on the bay side, but along the river, or lake front, for about a quarter of a mile, we collected a considerable quantity of broken pottery, broken flint, a few arrowheads, musket and pistol flints, a badly rusted knife, apparently of French make, some trade bullets, and a couple of pieces of badly corroded iron or steel, each resembling a toy tobacco pipe with a straight stem about two inches in length, with an egg-shaped bowl bent away from the stem at an angle of forty-five degrees, or, a quarter note in music, with a very thick stem to it. I find that these pieces of metal are of about the same size and shape as parts of the hand and wrist guards of an old sword in my possession—an heirloom of the eighteenth century.

It may be mentioned here, that some years ago, at a point about two miles or more down the river, beyond Pointe à la Bataille, in the bush back from the shore, Mr. Jacob Smith, of the Interior Department at Ottawa, kicked up what looked like an old-fashioned sword, rather badly decayed with rust. Mr. Smith presented the blade to Lt.-Col. A. L. Jarvis, I.S.O., Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture, who kindly allowed me to inspect the ancient weapon and take measurements. We