

southern shore of the lake, past the now famous Pictured Rocks, they carried across Keweenaw Point, visited a band of Christino Indians¹ not far from the mouth of Montreal River, now the far western boundary between Upper Michigan and Wisconsin, and, portaging across the base of the Chequamegon Island of to-day,—then united to the mainland,—entered beautiful Chequamegon Bay. Just where they made their camp, it is impossible from Radisson's confused narrative to say; but that it was upon the mainland, no Wisconsin antiquary now doubts, and we have reason to believe that it was upon the southwest shore, between the modern towns of Ashland and Washburn.²

Writes our chronicler, with a particularity of detail suggestive of De Foe: "We went about to make a fort of stakes, wch was in this manner. Suppose that the watter-side had ben in one end; att the same end there should be murtherers, and att need we made a bastion in a triangle

¹ Now called Crees.

² Radisson's *Voyages* plainly indicates that the travellers portaged across the long, narrow sand-spit formerly styled Shagawaumikong, in their day united with the mainland, but now insular, and bearing the name Chequamegon Island; this Radisson describes as "a point of 2 leagues long and some 60 paces broad," and later he refers to it as "the point that forms that Bay, wch resembles a small lake." After making this portage of Shagawaumikong, they proceeded in their boats, and "att the end of this bay we landed." The Ottawas of the party desired to cross over to their villages on the head-waters of the Black and Chippewa, and no landing-place was so advantageous for this purpose as the southwest corner of the bay. It is plain from the narrative that the Frenchmen, now left to themselves, built their fortified hut at or near the place of landing, on the mainland. The Chippewa tradition of the coming of Radisson and Groseilliers, as given by Warren in *Minn. Hist. Colls.*, v., pp. 121, 122, places the camp of the first white men on the eastern extremity of Madelaine (or La Pointe) Island. The tradition runs close to the fact in most other particulars; but in the matter of location, Radisson's journal leaves no room to doubt that the tradition errs.

See *post*, Father Verwyst's article, "Historic Sites on Chequamegon Bay," with notes on the site of Radisson's fort, by Sam. S. Fifield and Edward P. Wheeler. Verwyst thinks the location to have been "somewhere between Whittlesey's Creek and Shore's Landing;" Fifield and Wheeler are confident that it was at Boyd's Creek.