

TIDD'S ISLAND MOUND.

You will search in vain on a map of Ontario for Tidd's Island, just as you may for hundreds of other islands, and for hundreds of lakes, any one of which would be reckoned of no small importance in most European countries. The group of which Tidd's is a small member forms what is by general consent the most beautifully picturesque archipelago in America. Of all sizes, from the area of a small garden to that of a township—gently sloping to the water's edge; or rising abruptly with a face of old Laurentian aspect—treeless, partly cleared, or thickly wooded—with here a nestling cot and there the palatial summer residence of some Canadian or American nabob, the ever-changing scenery in the Lake of the Thousand Islands charms the tourist on the river St. Lawrence. Most of the intervening channels are deep, and all are well stocked with pike, muskallonge, sturgeon and other kinds of fish.

Situated as these islands are, they must have formed admirable hunting grounds for the aborigines, besides affording convenient resting-places to canoe-parties crossing from side to side. Gananoque valley offered a convenient trail to the northern *habitat* of the large game, and no doubt the site of the present pretty and industrious town at the mouth of the river, whence it derives its name, was the scene of many a landing and departure of the ancient people, on their way to and from the Algonkin and Iroquois countries.

Every child in Gananoque knows the situation of Tidd's Island, and herein the Gananoque child has the advantage over millions of outsiders. Indeed, Tidd's Island requires but a bridge three-fourths of a mile in length to connect it with the mainland. It takes its name from a Teutonic settler who pitched his tent, or rather built his log shanty, here about seventy years ago. At present it is owned by several persons, and as it is fully half a mile long, and from an eighth to a fourth of a mile wide, it affords plenty of room for residences and gardens. The western end is the property of Mr. C. A. See, who has built a commodious hotel on an eminence facing Gananoque. The grounds are a favourite summer resort, known as Tremont Park, and on what is almost the highest point of the property Mr. See accidentally discovered a mound which examination has proved to be a place of sepulture, and to contain some specimens of aboriginal workmanship that are remarkable for the hugeness of their proportions, if not for the elegance of their outline.

Acting for the Canadian Institute, the writer had the pleasure of completing the examination of the Tremont Park Mound, and succeeded in finding even a larger number of stone and copper relics than had been taken out by Mr. See. That gentleman having very generously added his "find" to the writer's, and the Canadian Institute is now in possession of all that the mound contained. Valuable as this is it does not form the only interesting feature of the discovery. Other points may be enumerated thus:—1st, The structure was a real mound; 2nd, It is probably the most easterly example of its kind in this Province; and 3rd The evidences favour the view that the Mound Builders (in this case, at all events) were Indians. Unfortunately, the contents had been considerably disturbed before the Institute was privileged to make an examination, but from the observations of Mr. See and those of the writer it may be noted that the mound was almost perfectly circular, about forty feet in diameter at the base, and rising to a height of four and a half feet at the crown. In the centre, and on a level with the base, a quantity of charcoal and ashes told their own tale, and at a distance of five feet south-east of this fire-place was a structure about four

feet in length composed of stones set on edge in two rows, from ten to twelve inches between the rows, and covered with other stones, so as to give the whole a drain-like appearance. The presence of human remains indicated the purpose of the mound, although these were so much decayed as not to warrant any statement being made regarding the exact number interred. Perhaps fifteen would not be far astray, and the bodies appeared to have been placed in a circle, the heads about six feet from the base of the mound, and the feet pointing to the centre. Large stones were placed above and around the heads, close to which were found the various relics now in the Archaeological museum.

Messieurs Louis Bedard and L. O'Neil, who own property on the same island, kindly gave the Institute permission to open what appeared to be a similar structure further to the east, and to claim all it might contain; but a section made from the edge to the centre proved its sedimentary origin, although the outside deposit exhibited traces of Indian occupation.

In the report which the Institute purposes to issue at the close of the season, full descriptions, with diagrams, will be given of the principal objects from Tidd's Island and elsewhere. Meanwhile, correspondence is solicited from all persons who can in any way contribute to the stock of information now being gleaned by the Institute relative to places connected with early Indian life, habits and occupation.

Toronto.

DAVID BOYLE.

A PLUCKY GIRL.—A story is told in the Washington correspondence of the *Baltimore Sun* of a young lady, the orphan daughter of an army officer, who, to assist in supporting her mother and sister, applied for an appointment in the Treasury Department. John Sherman was then Secretary. The courageous little girl called upon the Secretary and stated her case. She said she was willing to do almost anything that would enable her to provide for her mother. The Secretary said he had nothing for her to do, but assured her that he would cheerfully assist her whenever an opportunity presented itself. The little girl insisted that there was plenty of work around the Department which ought to be done, and she expressed herself willing to turn her hand to any grade of employment. She became so persistent that the Secretary was at a loss for a pretext to get rid of her. She surveyed him from head to foot, and, observing that his boots were not well shined, remarked with much earnestness: "Mr. Sherman, I think there is something I can do for you if you will permit me, and that is to give your boots a first-class shine. My case is more desperate than you imagine, and I will accept a position as department bootblack." The Secretary was so astonished that it was several seconds before he recovered sufficiently to direct his clerk to have the young lady appointed to a \$900 clerkship. She has since married and is doing well.

COLD BATHING.—*The Lancet* says the use of cold water as a bath for ordinary health purposes is only useful, or even safe, when it produces a rapid return of blood to the surface immediately after the first impression made, whether by immersion or affusion. The surface must quickly redden, and there must be a glow of heat. If these effects are not rapidly apparent, cold bathing is bad; and no such effects are likely to be produced unless the circulation be vigorous, and both the heart and blood vessels are healthy. Great mistakes are made, and serious risks are often incurred, by the unintelligent use of the cold bath by the weakly or unsound. Moreover, it is necessary to bear in mind that there is seldom too much energy to spare after middle age, and it is seldom expedient for persons much over forty to risk cold bathing. We would go so far as to say that no one above that age should use the tub quite cold unless under medical advice.