

THE
CANADIAN
NATURALIST AND GEOLOGIST.

VOL. IV.

DECEMBER, 1859.

No. 6.

ARTICLE XXX.—*Notes on Egyptian Antiquities presented to the Natural History Society by Hon. Mr. Ferrier.* By a Committee of the Society.

(Read at Meeting of Oct. 31st.)

1. *Mummy of a Lady, from Thebes.*

This is the body of an aged female, in excellent preservation and in a highly ornamented case. Her name (fac-similed on a reduced scale in Fig. I.) is written opposite the portrait on the bottom of the coffin, and may have been "Abothloé."

The body has been prepared by some process (probably immersion in natron) which has had the effect of destroying the muscles, leaving only the fibrous tissues in a dry and spongy condition. The body has been disembowelled previous to embalming. The surface, especially of the lower extremities, has been smeared with some oily or resinous varnish, and above this has been spread a thick layer of ground spices, apparently applied as a paste, and most copiously on the face and chest, where this material has been moulded in such a manner as to restore, in some degree, the original form of the muscles. The spices are coarsely but uniformly ground, and, under the microscope, present slender stalks and fragments of the shell of globular seeds or berries, smooth or minutely pitted on the surface. The appearance is