

Communications.

- H. COWING, Esq.—“Description of a new Steam Plough and Portable Steam Engine for general purposes,” with illustrative plans. 2nd Dec., 1854.
- Prof. BOVELL, M.D.—“On some specimens of Infusoria obtained from Rice Lake and the River Humber,—and on an interesting specimen of Plumatella found in Rice Lake.” 16th Dec., 1854.
- Prof. BOVELL, M.D.—“Remarks on the Respiratory Organs of the Lobster,—and on some peculiarities of the Intestinal Canal of the Bear;” illustrated by prepared specimens. 16th Dec., 1854.
- Prof. WILSON, LL.D.—“On some Conchological Relics of the Red Indians of Western Canada, illustrated by specimens of shells and other relics taken from Indian Mounds near Lake Huron.” 6th Jan., 1855.
- Professors IRVING and CHERRIMAN—“On the Eclipse of May 26th, 1854.” 13th Jan., 1855.
- Prof. CHAPMAN—“Some observations on Carbonate of Lime as an igneous product.” 13th Jan., 1855.
- Prof. CHAPMAN—“On the object of the Salt condition of the Sea.” 20th Jan., 1855.
- Prof. CHERRIMAN, M.A.—“On the Meteorological results of 1854.” 20th Jan., 1855.
- Prof. BOVELL, M.D.—“On the transfusion of Milk, as practised in the Cholera Sheds at Toronto in 1854.” 27th Jan., 1855.
- Prof. WILSON, LL.D.—“On traces of the use of Moveable Types, and imprinting with Coloured Pigments, amongst the Romans of the Second and Third Centuries.” 27th Jan., 1855.
- Major LACHLAN—“An account of an extraordinary Sudden Fall in the Waters of the Niagara River, in March 1848, caused by a temporary obstruction of the outlet of Lake Erie by Ice.” 3rd February, 1855.
- Prof. HIND, M.A.—“A Practical Illustration of a mode of Manufacturing Gun Cotton.” 3rd February, 1855.
- THOS. HENNING, Esq.—“On the Asteroids,” 10th February, 1855.
- Professor BOVELL, M.D.—“Some Observations on Microscopic Preparations of Chalk, from Barbadoes, containing Fossil Infusoria.” 10th February, 1855.
- SANDFORD FLEMING, Esq., C.E.—“Explanation and Mode of Use of Sang’s Platometer.” 17th February, 1855.
- Professor WILSON, LL.D.—“On Some Physical Elements of Ethnological Classification, and their Bearing on the Question of the Unity of the Human Race.” 17th February, 1855.
- Professor HIND, M.A.—“On the North American Drift.” 24th February, 1855.
- Rev. Professor HINCKES—“On the Classification of Birds.” 3rd March, 1855.
- Professor CROFT, D.C.L.—“Results of Analyses of some Spurious Mexican Coinage.” 10th March, 1855.
- Rev. W. BLEASDELL, M.A.—“On the Indian Tribes of Canada.” 10th March, 1855.
- Major LACHLAN—“On the Union of Lakes Erie and St. Clair.” 17th March, 1855.
- T. C. CLARKE, Esq., C.E.—“On Railway Truss Bridges.” 17th March, 1855.
- Professor CROFT, D.C.L.—“Remarks on a Specimen of Bitumen from the Western District.” 17th March, 1855.
- Professor CHAPMAN—“Description of a Convenient Method of Tabulating the Organic Remains found in various Strata.” 17th March, 1855.
- Professor HIND, M.A.—“On the Origin of the Basins of the Great American Lakes.” 24th March, 1855.
- F. W. CUMBERLAND, Esq., C.E.—“Notes of a Visit to the Works of the Toronto and Guelph Railroad.” 31st March, 1855.
- PAUL KANE, Esq.—“On the Habits and Customs of the Chinook Indians.” 31st March, 1855.
- Prof. CHAPMAN—“Additional Notes on the Saltiness of the Sea, being the substance of a communication to Lieut. Maury, U.S. Navy, Superintendent of the Washington Observatory, arising out of a Correspondence on Prof. Chapman’s paper published in the March No. of the *Canadian Journal*.” 14th April, 1855.
- Prof. CHAPMAN—“Further Views and Authorities in support of observations on an example of igneous origin of Carbonate of Lime.” 14th April, 1855.
- ANDREW HOOD, Esq.—“Description of a new Astronomical and Surveying Instrument.” 14th April, 1855.
- T. C. CLARKE, Esq., C.E.—“On the Action of the Ice upon the Railway Bridge at Rice Lake.” 21st April, 1855.

Prof. HIND, M.A.—“On the occurrence of Crystallized Carbonate of Lime in the Native Copper of Lake Superior.” 21st April, 1855.

SANDFORD FLEMING, Esq., C.E.—“Notes on the Welland Canal.” 21st April, 1855.

While the Council believe that the above list includes some original papers not less creditable to the Institute than any that have been produced in former years, they feel precluded from any special notice of them, owing to the unusually large share that the members of Council have had to take in this department of the ordinary proceedings. The foregoing list, it will be seen, includes 33 papers, of which the very large proportion of 24 have been contributed exclusively by members of Council. This is a state of things which they feel it to be their duty specially to bring under the notice of the members at large. So numerous a body as the Institute now is, ought to include a much greater number of working members; and the Council are led to believe that their apparent supineness arises, in part at least, from the mistaken idea that communications can only be made in the form of elaborate essays. They would strongly urge on their successors, and on the members at large, the encouragement of brief communications, in greater number, as at once more calculated to give general interest to the ordinary meetings, and to elicit such results of personal knowledge and observation as are best calculated to add to the true value of the published proceedings. Short notices of natural phenomena, features of local geology, objects of natural history, and the like subjects, derived from personal observation, must be readily producible by many members who have hitherto borne no active part in the Society’s proceedings, but whose contributions would most effectually promote the objects which it is designed to accomplish. Among the papers communicated during the past year, the Council have pleasure in referring to three on engineering works of the province, which were appreciated by the members as acceptable contributions to a department to which previous reports have referred, only to express regret at its neglect.

The anticipated resumption for public use, of the apartments occupied by the Institute in the Government House, consequent on the removal of the seat of government to Toronto—to which attention was especially directed in the last Annual Report,—led the Councils to devise plans for preventing the best interests of the Institute being affected thereby. The results of these are already known to the members. Temporary rooms, in a convenient locality, have been secured on advantageous terms, and are now occupied, and in use for the regular weekly meetings. The munificent gift by George William Allan, Esq., one of the Vice-Presidents, of a valuable site in Pembroke-street, whereon to erect a permanent Hall for the Institute, was acknowledged in the report of last year; and a general meeting, called for the purpose, authorized the Council to accept the gift, and to take all requisite steps for the erection of a suitable building.

In furtherance of this, two successive grants of £500 each have been made by the Legislature, and an appeal by the Council to the members generally has already been so far responded to, that the Council have to acknowledge a subscription list, which though as yet only including the names of sixty-eight members, out of more than four hundred, amounts to the sum of £716 10s. F. W. Cumberland, Esq., having further liberally offered his valuable services as architect, immediate steps were taken for commencing the permanent building, and on the 13th of November, His Excellency the Governor General