

ARCHÆOLOGICAL REPORT.

BY DAVID BOYLE.

To the President and Members of the Canadian Institute:

GENTLEMEN,—It is gratifying to be able to state that the interest in archaeological matters has increased very considerably throughout the province, since the inception of our scheme to place ourselves as nearly as possible abreast of other countries in this respect. The hope expressed in our first report, that "its appearance would tend to arouse a more general interest in the subject," has thus been realized. The activity, however, has been mainly displayed in the work of collecting. Old collectors have been encouraged to go on, and many new ones have entered the field. On this account there is no doubt that much valuable material will be preserved, which otherwise would have been lost, but as a consequence, there is now greater difficulty in adding specimens to our collection. Ultimately, it is probable that many amateur lots will find their way to the provincial museum, and already several assurances have been given to this effect by individual collectors. Another good result arising from our project, is the very general determination arrived at by almost all who pick up specimens, not to let them go out of the country. In a few instances collectors seem to be mainly actuated by mercenary motives, but as a rule they are really *amateurs*. Among the latter are some who take the broad, public-spirited view, that it is better to place their "finds" in a large collection, where every one may see them, than to retain them at home for merely personal gratification.

On a list of such for the past year, the Institute must place the names of Messrs. R. W. Reavley, B.A., Teacher, Tilsonburg; R. D. George, Teacher, Fonthill; William and David Melville, Creemore; Dugald Carrie, Teacher, Creemore; Cyrenius Bearss, Sherkston; Wm. Michener, Sherkston; Isaac and Ezra Bearss, Sherkston; John N. Boyle, Braeside, Richmond Hill; Dr. R. Orr, Maple; William and Robert Loughed, Smithdale; Herbert and Theophilus Connor, Glenhuron; Thomas White, Cashtown; Thomas Boon, Botlwell; Mrs. Barney, senior, Sherkston; Geo. Muma, Humberstone; Mr. John McPherson, Toronto; Miss Kirkwood, Toronto; Wardie and Ottie White, Toronto; Joseph Smelser, Vaughan; Luke Mullock, Waterdown; Major J. M. Delamere, Toronto; Wm. Welsh, Amberley; Rev. John McLean, Moosejaw, N. W. T.; Angus Buie, Nottawasaga, and Clarence Bell.

Thanks are also due to a large number of persons in various parts of the province, who have supplied information of great value. The names of some of these gentlemen, with a statement of the results arising from their communications, will be found in the present report. In other cases the work remains to be done.

Owing to some misunderstanding, the number of reports printed last year was considerably less than for the year previous. On this account I believe that even the members of the Institute were not supplied with them, and many applications for copies have had to be refused. This year it is hoped that a large enough number will be struck off, to supply all who are interested.