

II. Unsuited to the Aims and objects of the Society.

If such were all the Museum contained my task would be easy, but it is not. The Museum contains also:-

- (a) A group of wax figures purporting to represent the Fathers of Confederation, 1866. These were made, the majority from photographs or engravings, in 1898. Their historical value is therefore nil.
- (b) Modern copies in oil, the majority technically inferior, of original portraits preserved elsewhere.
- (c) Curios: Objects of no museum interest, judged by any standard which can justly be applied, such as:-

Piece of mortar from the Ramparts of Montreal. P.68 of Cat., No.42.

Nails from Sacristy, p.74 of Cat., No. 49.

Brick from Chateau, p.86 of Cat. No. 8.

Piece of mortar from Fort de la Montagne, p.75 of Cat. No.65.

Piece of wood cut by beaver, p.57 of Cat. No. 16.

Compare also No.47, p.69; No.36 p.68; No.33 p.60; No.30 p.60; No.29 p.60.

The number of catalogued objects of this useless character is large. It is difficult perhaps to determine where the line should be drawn between an object worth looking at and one that isn't; but I am very certain that the present policy of the Museum in this respect needs modification. An object to be suitable for exhibition, should have some intrinsic interest.

- (d) Objects unrelated to the purpose of the Museum and frequently mere curios:-

P.57, No.7. Sword from Syria.

P.57, No.8. Mexican knife.

P.86, No.7. Chiefs War Club, South Pacific.

P.75, No.6. Chip from Nelson's ship 'Victory'.

Compare also No. 37, p.68; No.35, p.60.

- (e) Exhibits which purport to be historical records, but which are modern imaginative productions, taken from illustrated magazines, e.g., a picture of a Viking ship in "The Discoveries Room"; pictures of the Battle of Chateauguay and of Queenstown Heights in "The Vaudreuil Room"; Pictures 50 and 51 in the Council Room.