

IV.—Relics of the Stone Age in Nova Scotia. By Harry Piers.

(Read 13th May, 1895.)

Not long ago I had the honour of reading before the Institute of Science a paper describing a number of aboriginal relics found in this province. It was based on a study of the many excellent specimens preserved in the cases of the Provincial Museum, Halifax. Since that time, a quantity of undescribed and very interesting material has been placed in my hands, which I shall herein describe.

A number of years ago the late Charles W. Fairbanks, Esq., C. E., formed a collection of stone implements which had been discovered in Nova Scotia. Most of these relics were given to him by William M. King who found them while clearing and plowing the land on his farm at the head of Grand Lake, Halifax County. The place was doubtless a prehistoric camping ground, but I do not know whether the Micmacs continued to resort there within the memory of man.

Mr. Fairbanks's collection is now the property of his son, Charles R. Fairbanks, Esq., of Halifax, to whom I am indebted for permission to examine and describe the specimens. Very unfortunately none of them bear labels, and therefore the exact localities where they were found are unknown; but there is no doubt that they are Nova Scotian, and probably nearly all were found on Mr. King's farm.

I have also to thank several other gentlemen whose names are subsequently mentioned, for permission to study implements in their possession.

These specimens, together with some in the McCulloch collection of Dalhousie College Museum, and others of my own, constitute the material upon which the present paper is founded.*

^{*} Judge DesBrisay of Bridgewater, N. S., most courteously offered me the privilege of examining and describing his excellent collection of aboriginal remains; but I have so far been unable to take advantage of his kindness.