

men may be found to include those tubes which have always been a puzzle, and of which our collection contains several fine examples. In the "Personal Narratives" of Humboldt, we find that writer in speaking of articles made from jadestone, remarking that the Spanish planters share the predilection of the Indians for these amulets, which are sold at a very considerable price, the form most frequently given to them being that of the Persepolitan cylinders, longitudinally perforated, and loaded with inscriptions and figures.

When we bear in mind that the Tlingit of Alaska are less removed from a condition of genuine savagery than are most of the other North American aborigines, it is not unreasonable to expect enlightenment on many points from the notes of an observer like Lieutenant Emmons, who, as Mr. Boas states, "has taken great pains to ascertain the meanings of the various implements."

Since the issue of our first report last year, letters from different parts of the Province have been received by the Education Department, the Institute, and myself approving of the task we have undertaken, and giving information relative to localities and discoveries connected with the pre-historical or early historical existence of the Indians. Want of opportunity has prevented any advantage from being taken of these, but in all probability some original work will be performed next year at a few of the places to which attention has been directed, as well as elsewhere.

I am still convinced that from the five thousand teachers of rural schools in this Province, there is much valuable information to be gleaned. The question is how to reach them. Shall it be by a circular, or by a card in the educational journals? Perhaps both methods should be tried. We need not expect too much at first, but if the subject is kept persistently before the eyes of all who are engaged in rural school work throughout Ontario, there can be little doubt as to the profitable results. Perhaps even one letter from such a correspondent would fully repay all the trouble and expense incident to the plan.

Our collection has now assumed such proportions that it will be necessary to rearrange it, and in some measure to alter the classification. I intend also to paint a number on each specimen, and to catalogue them all. In many museums a number is all that serves to identify the pieces, and constant reference to a catalogue is thus involved on the part of him who wants to get information. This, however, is not my idea of how either to popularize a collection, or to facilitate the work of the student.

Everything possible should be done to enable young and old, learned and unlearned, to examine with pleasure and profit, at the least possible expense of time and trouble. This object can be obtained only by means of copious and legibly written, or printed labels.

It is gratifying to be able to state that as the existence of our collection becomes known so many persons having specimens willingly contribute them to the Museum.

Before this report passes through the press it is hoped that all the specimens will have been rearranged. The area of case room has been fully doubled, and we may now regard our Archaeological Cabinets as not unworthy of examination by specialists in this department.

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DAVID BOYLE.

TORONTO, December, 1888.

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