

fragments of shells and crinoids, which, like the fragments of some of the modern limestones of Florida, bear evidence of the rolling action of the surf or of strong currents. Another variety is fine and compact like the upper part of the Trenton at Montreal, and shows a homogeneous calcareous and earthy paste filled with fragments of shells, crinoids, and corals. Figs. 4 and 5 represent the



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

Figs. 4 & 5.—*Limestone from Pt. Claire Quarries, (10 diams.)*

two last varieties, and may be taken as fair specimens of the material of the piers of the great railway bridge, which solid and durable though they are, are composed of shelly fragments, that once drifted like snow before the ocean currents. The Chazy limestone of Isle Jesus is characterised by Sir W. E. Logan, as "a cemented aggregation of organic remains." I have not examined this stone, but that of the same formation in the vicinity of Montreal, consists almost entirely of broken brachiopodous shells, many of them probably the *Atrypa plena*, which is so abundant in these same beds. (Fig. 6.)

To persons unfamiliar with such subjects, it is a striking fact that the buildings of our cities are constructed of the debris of the skeletons of marine animals, belonging to a bygone period of the earth's history, and that these same remains constitute sheets of limestone extending over many thousands of square miles, with a thickness of several hundred feet. As already stated, however, these