

ARCHÆOLOGICAL REPORT.

To the President and Council of the Canadian Institute :—

GENTLEMEN,—I have much pleasure in presenting you with the following report of work done in the Archæological field during the past season—work which it would have been impossible to perform but for the aid rendered to the Institute by the Provincial Legislature at its last session.

As this is the first report of the kind prepared under the auspices of our society, we are warranted in hoping that its appearance will tend to arouse a more general interest in the subject. The brief, illustrated descriptions that follow, of a few typical specimens in our cases, may induce farmers and others to preserve for safe keeping in the Provincial Archæological Museum, which we have established, many such scientifically valuable objects as have, too often, hitherto been lightly esteemed, or neglected and lost.

I have the honor to be,
Yours respectfully,

DAVID BOYLE,

Toronto, Dec. 20th, 1887.

Curator.

As soon as the season was well enough advanced to make digging possible, April 30, I visited lot 2, con. 1, township of York, within sight of Toronto. As many interesting relics had been picked up in this neighborhood, it seemed a promising place in which to begin operations.

On the rear of this lot, which is part of the Jackes' estate, is a mound, evidently of artificial formation, although the only indications that remain are disturbed soil and considerable quantities of charcoal and ashes. The situation is high and dry, and the trees close to the mound are comparatively young.

The discovery of two or three fragments of what appeared to be corn-cobs suggested the probability of this earth-heap having been employed by the Indians as a *cache* or deposit for maize.

The whole of the surrounding country abounds in traces of various aboriginal manufactures—flint chips, broken pottery and bone implements—and the Museum of the Institute contains many fine specimens from the same neighborhood, presented by Mr. B. Jackes, of Toronto, Mr. J. Long, of Lansing, and Miss Marshall, teacher of the school section in which the property is situated.

On the 11th of May, I proceeded to Tidd's Island, in the River St. Lawrence, opposite Gananoque, for the purpose of opening a mound on the property of Messrs. Louis Bedard and Lawrence O'Neil, these gentlemen having kindly granted permission to the Institute not only to excavate, but to appropriate anything that might be found.

The island itself lies within a mile of Gananoque, is about half a mile in length, and from one-eighth to one-fourth of a mile wide. Its longer axis corresponds with the course of the river, and the mound in question is near the eastern extremity, but on the south side.

With the assistance of Mr. Bedard and two French-Canadian laborers, a trench was dug from the margin to the centre of the elevation, but with the exception of a few flint-