

Literature and Science.

CANADIAN ARCHAEOLOGY.

THOSE who have had the pleasure of seeing the very interesting collection of archaeological relics forming the private collection of Mr. Charles A. Hirschfelder, will agree with us that he is a most competent authority on the subject of which he writes to the *Mail*, and we deem the communication so important a one, and we feel sure of such interest to our readers, that we reprint it at length :

SIR,—The late discovery of Indian remains in the township of Tiny has once more brought prominently before us the great necessity of proper steps being taken for systematically collecting our Aboriginal relics, and thoroughly examining the graves, forts, camping places, etc., in which they are found. In the valuable article which appeared in your paper a few days ago the following statement is made:—"That a discovery of Indian remains should have been made in the township of Tiny is not a matter of surprise. The only wonder is that more extensive indications of the presence years ago of the Aborigines in that vicinity have not been exhumed."

In reference to this later clause I would state that years ago Dr. Tache, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa, spent a great deal of time carrying on researches in the old Huron county, and was rewarded by finding many valuable relics, which are now to be seen in the Laval University, Quebec, while for the past ten years the writer has carried on systematic excavations in this same section, and has unearthed some two thousand specimens, found principally in the townships of Nottawasaga, Tiny, Tay, Flos, Medonte, Oro, North and South Orillia, which embraces the main part of the old Huron country. These relics have been found on old battle grounds in which human bones were lying in great quantities, forts, camping places, and in the graves, which were of two kinds, single ones and ossuaries, the latter containing sometimes as many as two thousand bodies.

I opened an ossuary near Orillia, which must have contained at least two thousand bodies, and I dug down eight feet through human bones before I reached the bottom of the pit.

In the ossuary were relics of various kinds, such as bone needles, stone tomahawks, stone and pottery pipes, beads of shell and copper and other Indian paraphernalia.

As a description of the remains found in this interesting section of country have been given in your paper from time to time, I shall not describe them now, as my main object in writing this letter is not to point out so much what Dr. Tache and the writer have

done in that country, as those specimens are safe, we trust, for all time, but to state that specimens of the greatest ethnological value are, I might say every day, being unearthed, and as their scientific value is not known they are given to the children to play with, or in some other manner are destroyed, while the remainder above mentioned are being defaced by the plough.

I can say without exaggerating that there is scarcely a farm in any of the above townships on which relics have not been discovered, while from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast are to be found specimens which there should not be a day's delay in collecting, as every day they are either being destroyed or sent out of Canada. There is no reason why we should not have a collection of Canadian archaeology, which for all time to come would not only be of the greatest value to the student, but also of much interest to the public in general. Yours, etc.,

CHAS. A. HIRSCHFELDER.

TORONTO, June 12.

THE powers of the Princess Royal have long been acknowledged in Germany, upon the art of which country she has had great and lasting influence. In 1860 she was elected Member of the Berlin Academy, where she has constantly exhibited. Painting admirably, as she does, in landscape, portraiture and still-life, it is perhaps in her portraits that she excels. An artist may be an admirable draughtsman of the figure, he may have the finest technique and a true love of colour, he may possess a perfect mastery of carnations (critics always talk a lot about carnations), and yet fail entirely in portraiture. The one essential thing is the instinct for reading character and the power of seizing upon and depicting, without exaggerating or burlesque, the salient points in the expression of his sitter. That the Princess Royal possesses this gift may be seen by referring to our last illustration. Without knowing the lady, one feels sure that this is a "speaking" likeness. This may be the result of the careful study of character as expressed in physiognomy, which one expects is a lesson early taught to royal children, or one that is quickly gained in courts, if it be not actually inculcated. There is dignity in the simple treatment of this picture, and the easy pose of the figure has been skilfully caught.—*Magazine of Art.*

MISS HELEN SPARK, of S. S. No. 1, West Luther, in North Wellington, writes the Inspector that on Arbour Day the following work was accomplished at her school:—Ten spruce, five cedar, three balsam, two silver birch, twenty-five willow and thirty poplar trees were planted; two flower beds were made and the yard cleaned up and levelled.

Special Papers.

THE SUMMER VACATION.

ALL the old lady teachers (if there be any, since it is a disputed question whether a lady ever grows old) are warned away from this article. I don't want to talk to those "who know as much about how to spend their summer vacation as I," nor to those who have gotten so deep into a rut that they are unwilling to be helped out. Perhaps I have one taste in common with old bachelors. However it may be, I want to talk to the young girls. I shall not restrict the term in its use to those under eighteen, but will stretch it to include all who are willing to take my advice.

In the first place, take a vacation of at least six weeks. Don't undertake any agency unless it be an absolute necessity for the sake of helping those dependent upon you, those utterly unable to support themselves. I used to read some of the circulars sent out to entrap teachers into summer agencies, but if a lady is at all sensitive, she will meet with rebuffs which will more than counter-balance all the "benefits of fresh air, change of place," etc. It will take a longer period than the summer vacation to inure her to the trials of an agent's life, and instead of going back to her work in the schoolroom refreshed and vivified by a summer's rest, she will go back tired and disgusted with life.

Don't spend the entire vacation at a summer school. I rather admire the desire for improvement which influences young teachers to do so, but it is not wise. Several weeks spent in a geological or botanical excursion under the guidance of a skilful professor may be good. Almost anything that takes you out into the open air is good—except the agency. But don't let any other kind of a summer school take the greater part of your vacation. And if it takes half, don't let it take more than half the day, including the time of preparation for your recitations. Once I attended a summer school for six weeks, at the seashore, and I was not injured, because the lectures I attended were only from ten to twelve in the morning, and my daily sea bath dissipated thoughts that might have been too heavy for me, and the sea air gave me such an appetite that the physical hunger which often made me speculate upon what I was going to have for the next meal kept me from hungering for too solid mental food.

Don't stay at home all the summer. It is not economical. Those teachers who never have a change of air and scene lose vigour; and even if they drag out weary days without losing time from school or paying the physician, they will have to resign sooner