1. MINERALOGY.—The basis of this department is the collection of about 2000 Canadian and Foreign Minerals acquired from the late Dr. Holmes in 1857. Subsequent additions have largely increased this collection, which is now arranged in table cases with drawers beneath, the former containing a complete series of the more important minerals and a suite of crystallographic specimens for the use of Students. In the wall-cases at one side of the hall are separate collections of economic minerals, and illustrations of concretionary and stalactitic structures, metamorphism, mineral veins, &c.

2. Geology and Palaeontology.—The collections consist of large series of Fossils representing the successive formations. A typical series for the use of Students is arranged in chronological order in table cases around three sides of the hall, with special and local collections in the drawers below. On the walls and in the centre of the hall are large specimens, casts, &c. Among the more important special collections are those representing Eczoon Canadense, Devonian Plants and Post-pliocene Fossils, and the skeletons of English Mesozoic Reptiles presented by Mr. Claxton of Montreal. There are also a number of casts of large Fossils from the Ward collection and from the British Museum. A typical collection of rocks is arranged in two table cases.

3. ZOOLOGY.—In this department the Carpenter collection of Shells, presented by the late Dr. P. P. Carpenter, is a principal feature. The specimens are beautifully mounted on glass tablets, and arranged in six large table-cases and seven upright cases, and in drawers beneath the former. The collections of Radiates, Articulates and Vertebrates are temporarily placed in wall cases on one side of the hall and in the gallery above.

4. Botany.—The principal part of this collection is the Holmes Herbarium of Canadian and Foreign Plants, including the Grasses and Carices, which have been revised and named by Col. Munro. There is also a collection of specimens of Canadian Woods, presented by the late Dr. Barnston, and by D. Davidson, Esq.; a collection of Australian woods presented by Sir Wm. Dennison; collections of Foreign Ferns and British Plants, presented by G. Barnston, Esq., and collections of Mosses, Lichens, Fungi, and Algæ.

5. ETHNOLOGY.—In this Department there are Indian Relics from the site of Hochelaga; the collection of the late Dr. VanCortland of Ottawa, purchased from his heirs; and a small series of American Skulls.

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