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SCIENCE.

CANADIAN ARCHÆOLOGY.

Additional notes on Aboriginal Antiquities found at Montreal.

(Read before the Natural History Society of Montreal.)

Since the publication of my former paper on this, (1) the excavations on the site of the ancient Indian village, described in that paper, have proceeded to completion, and now the whole of the superficial layer of sand having been removed, the spot has forever lost its original contour and appearance, and little probability remains of farther discoveries. Throughout the past year the progress of the work has been carefully watched, and special excavations have been made in the more promising places. By these means many additional objects have been obtained, some of them of much interest. Mr. E. Murphy, of this Society, has also aided in the work of exploration, and has accumulated a large collection; and I am indebted to Mr. Dand, the overseer in charge of the workmen, for several specimens, as well as for pointing out some of the more interesting spots for exploration.

The additional facts obtained do not induce me in any way to

The additional facts obtained do not induce me in any way to modify the statements of my former paper respecting the certainty of this having been the site of an ancient Indian village, and probably of that mentioned by Cartier under the name of Hochelaga. These conclusions are indeed strengthened by the observations more recently made.

Street to a little west of Metcalfe Street in one direction, and in the other from a little south of Burnside Place to within 60 yards of Sherbrooke Street. In this limited area, not exceeding two imperial acres, twenty skeletons have been disinterred within twelve months, and the workmen state that many parts of the ground excavated in former years was even more rich in such remains. Hundreds of old fire places, and indications of at least ten or twelve huts or lodges have also been found, and in a few instances these occur over the burial places, as if one generation had built its huts over the graves of another. Where habitations have stood, the ground is in some places to the depth of three feet, a black mass saturated with carbonaccous matter, and full of bones of wild animals, charcoal, pottery, and remains of implements of stone or bone. Farther, in such places the black soil is laminated, as if deposited in successive layers on the more depressed parts of the surface. The length of time during which the site was occupied, is also indicated by the very different states of preservation of the bones and bone implements; some of those in the deeper parts of the deposit being apparently much older than those nearer the surface. Similar testimony is afforded by the great quantity and various patterns of the pottery, as well as by the abundance of the remains of animals used as food, throughout the area above mentioned.

The space in which the remains occur extends from Mansfield

All these indications point to a long residence of the aborigines on this spot, while the almost entire absence of articles of European manufacture in the undisturbed portions of the ground, implies a date coeval with the discovery of the country. The few objects of this kind found in circumstances which prevent the supposition of mere superficial intermixture, are just sufficient to shew that the village existed until the appearance of Europeans on the stage. Other facts bearing on these points will appear in the course of the following detailed notice of the objects found since the publication of my former paper.

1. Human Remains.—Several additional skulls have been dis-

1. Human Remains.—Several additional skulls have been disinterred, but many of them in a state too fragile for preservation. All are of the same type of cranial conformation with those previously described. The measurements of five of the most perfect are as follows:—

Longitudinal diamete	er,	No. 4. 63 in.	No. 5. 7 in.	No. 6. 71 in.	No. : 81 i	7. No. 8. n. 7 in.
Parietal "		53	51	51	54	52
Frontal "	•••	48	4 8	43	43	43
Vertical "	• • •	53.	$5\frac{3}{4}$	$5\frac{3}{5}$	55	537
Intermastoid arch,	• • • •	113	12		145	127
Intermastoid line,	• • • • •	5	5	_	5	