

During the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, many of the most distinguished ethnologists and archaeologists on this continent, examined our collection of illustrative specimens, and their remarks on the extent and character of the museum were such as to afford the Institute satisfaction with what has been accomplished, as well as encouragement for future prosecution of work in the same direction.

Prof. Putnam, of the Peabody museum, which has one of the largest collections of this kind in the United States, said that in proportion to its size, our museum contained a greater variety of unique and instructive specimens, than any other he had ever seen.

Dr. Abbott, of Trenton, New Jersey, expressed himself as being especially pleased with the contents of the cases containing ornaments and implements of bone.

Rev. Mr. Beauchamp declared that our collection of stone "bird-amulets" was superior to anything of its kind in any American museum.

Prof. Morse, of the Essex Institute, Mass., was surprised to see the variety of pottery patterns.

Several of the visitors recorded their opinions on the pages of our register, and from these the following are quoted:

Mr. A. E. Douglas, of the Museum of Natural History, New York, wrote:—"I consider this collection is almost unique in objects of great interest to archaeologists." Mr. Douglas is himself, the owner of one of the largest private collections in America. It is on permanent exhibition in the New York museum.

The Rev. W. M. Beauchamp, of Baldwinsville, New York, and an *attaché* of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, expresses himself as follows:—"I have been greatly pleased and profited by examining the valuable collection of Indian articles in the Canadian Institute, among which are some that are beyond price to an antiquarian, and will prove of the highest use in solving some questions of early history. Ontario will soon have reason to be proud of such treasures." Mr. Beauchamp is now employed in getting together for the Smithsonian Institute just such information relative to the Hurons, as Mr. A. F. Hunter and myself employed a portion of the past season in procuring for the Institute.

Mr. Chas. W. Smiley, who is also connected with the Department at Washington, wrote:—"Here is a fine collection, which we should appreciate in Washington very highly. Whatever more can be obtained and added before it is too late, should be secured *at once*. Unless Ontario gather up her scattered materials soon, they will be taken away to enrich museums abroad. Now or never!"

Few persons are better qualified than Dr. C. C. Abbott, of Trenton, New Jersey, to express an intelligent opinion in relation to matters of this kind. He has devoted many years to archaeological study, and is the author of several works on the subject. His immense private collection is on view at the Peabody Museum, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Dr. Abbott has left us the following record:—"I have examined the archaeological collection of this Institute, and am delighted with it. Its value for scientific purposes is very great, and already there is gathered here the material for comparative study, so much needed by students of archaeology. Collections of given areas as complete as possible, are the requirements for finally solving the problem of North America's aboriginal peoples; and I earnestly pray that not only the citizens of Toronto, but the Provincial Government, will be exceedingly liberal in assisting those who have made so admirable a collection as is here brought together."