

In 1863 a Medical Section was formed in connection with the Institute. Meetings were regularly held and papers read, but after some time the medical members branched off and became a separate organization.

Somewhat similar and about the same time was the origin of the Entomological Society.

In 1871 a Historical Section was proposed, but no definite action was then taken. The same may be said as to proposals in 1874 for a Field section and a Numismatic Section.

In 1885 occurred the amalgamation with The Natural History Society. This union was of great advantage to both societies. For certain purposes the Natural History Society maintains its separate corporate existence, but as the Biological Section of the Institute it brought with it a valuable museum of Natural History and its members continue to do good work, especially among young men, by encouraging study and original investigation.

In 1886 on the suggestion of Professor Ellis, who was then President, five other sections were formed, an Architectural, a Photographic, a Philological, a Historical, and a Geological and Mining Section, as also an Ornithological sub-section of the Biological Section. These continued for some time to do good work, and out of the Architectural, the Photographic and the Historical Sections, independent societies have developed, which still maintain a vigorous existence.

In 1887 the Ontario Government commenced making an annual grant for Archaeological research. The fund was for some years administered under the supervision of the Institute, and entirely through the energetic labours of Mr. David Boyle a splendid Archaeological Museum has been founded. The collection soon became far too large to be properly exhibited in the Institute building, and it was therefore transferred to more ample quarters in the Department of Education.

In 1888 a Sociological Committee was formed on the initiation of Mr. T. B. Browning, who, as chairman, conducted a series of enquiries into the social and political systems of our North-West Indians, the result being a considerable amount of interesting information.

Summer sessions were held in 1890 at Niagara and in 1891 at Penetanguishene.