

I have already stated that the increased archaeological activity recently displayed among amateurs, has manifested itself chiefly in the work of collecting. This is good so far as it goes, but does not accomplish what is required from the Institute's standpoint. For present and future use are demanded at least moderately accurate surveys of all aboriginal locations, with drawings of fortified works, and exact data relating to materials, patterns, depths, soils, ash-heaps, position of bodies, with particulars relating to skulls, modes of burial, presence or absence of European influences, and many other details requiring experience, time and labor to record satisfactorily.

Mr. A. F. Hunter has devoted considerable time and done a good deal of travelling for the purpose of locating villages, potteries and ossuaries, in townships formerly occupied by the Hurons. His paper on that district is exceedingly interesting, and will enable any future explorer with "reasonable means," to economize time in making a more detailed survey, or in excavating for relics.

Having begged permission from Dr. Francis Parkman, the historian, to quote from his works for use in this report, in connection with the work done in Simcoe county, a prompt and courteous reply was received from that gentleman, granting the favor asked. In this note Dr. Parkman wrote:

"I infer from what you write, that you are making investigations in the old Huron country. Should the result be printed, I should be glad if you would let me know of it."

Copies of our two former reports having been mailed to him, he afterwards wrote:

"Thank you for the two reports of the Canadian Institute which you have kindly directed to be sent me. It is certainly in the power of the Institute if it has reasonable means at its disposal, to do good service to American archaeology, by exploring the Indian remains of Ontario, and above all those of the old Huron country, including that of the Tobacco nation. I am glad a beginning has been successfully made in this direction, and hope that the Institute will be enabled to continue its work, before the spread of settlement makes such researches difficult or impossible.

"Yours very truly,

"F. PARKMAN.

"Boston, 3rd July, 1889"

It is inspiring, even inspiring, to know that we have the countenance of so high an authority, the very highest in fact, in all that appertains to the history of American and more especially (so far as we are concerned), of Canadian Indians. No one better than he can fully estimate the value of such investigation, in their bearing upon the past and present European relations of the Aborigines to the history of our country, for no one else has devoted so much of a busy life-time to the patient, arduous and scholarly study of Canadian colonial development, the results of which are embodied in a series of volumes, that are perhaps unequalled in the historic literature of any other land in the world.

It would be difficult to conjecture what Dr. Parkman regards as "reasonable means" at the disposal of the Institute, whereby "to do good service to American archaeology," and he would probably be incredulous were he informed as to the smallness of the sum that has been spent by us in three years, for the purpose in question—a sum which has covered payment of services, travelling expenses, employment of manual labor, purchase of specimens, express and freight charges, supply of show cases, printing of circulars and labels, postage and engraving.