

Department of Public Instruction is now housed in the Parliamentary Building in Quebec, and is cared for by Abbé V. A. Huard and his assistant. In this Museum there are really two Provancher collections. The first was purchased in 1877 by the Museum and is known as the 1877 collection (in this paper referred to as the first collection). The other came to the Museum (through purchase) after Provancher's death, and is known as the Dernière Provancher collection, (in this paper referred to as the second collection). Both of these collections are in the cabinets obtained from Provancher, and most fortunately are still left as arranged by him. Each collection contains species not represented in the other, but in cases where the species was found represented in both collections and there was nothing in the description or manuscript notes to prevent, we have chosen as lectotype a specimen from the second collection, because this was the collection retained and used by Provancher until his death, and we are inclined to believe, even though he was not a "type-worshipper," that he would retain the actual type for future reference. Specimens in both collections bear small, yellow labels on which a number is printed. These numbers are species numbers and refer to a catalogue prepared by Provancher. Each insect order in both collections begins with the number one. In the Hymenoptera, therefore, considering both collections as a unit, we often have two, usually widely different species under the same number. There appears to be no instance in which the same species occurs under the same number in both collections. The two collections differ in the style of name label. The name label for the 1877 collection is on blue paper, while that for the second collection is on white paper which has a double red line (the outer being the heavier) around the margin.

The catalogues prepared by Provancher are in the Public Museum, and although they are little more than lists of numbers followed by names, with an occasional mention of locality, they are of some assistance in proving the way in which Provancher-treated species reduced by him to synonymy.

A hasty examination of all the insects in both collections showed that they were in remarkably fine condition, considering that they are kept in wooden drawers unprotected by any repellent,