

Dr. P. R. Hoy, who in his lifetime was a leading Wisconsin archaeologist, in 1886 presented before the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, a paper entitled "Who Built the Mounds?", in which was given quite an array of historical facts, and the results of his own observations, which together formed a most convincing argument in favor of the Indian authorship of Wisconsin mounds.

He concluded his paper by saying:

"In view of the foregoing evidence, the legitimate conclusion must follow that the "mound-builders" were Indians, and nothing but Indians, the immediate ancestors of the present tribes as well as many other Indians that formerly were scattered over this country. Differing in habits of life and language, just as the Indians of the several tribes did before the white man changed them, they continued to build mounds after they had communication with Europeans, since which time mound-building, together with many of the arts of the red man, such as making wampum, flint, stone and copper implements, pottery, etc., have declined and nearly quite ceased."—Hoy, 30.

In 1890, Dr. Cyrus Thomas, working under the direction of the Bureau of Ethnology, concluded an exhaustive investigation of the antiquities of several states, including a portion of southern Wisconsin. In his report, published in the 12th Annual Report of the Bureau, he gives his conclusion that:

"The links directly connecting the Indians and mound-builders are so well established that archaeologists are justified in accepting the theory that they are one and the same people."—XLVIII.

Dr. Stephen D. Peet, editor of the American Antiquarian, who has devoted many years to the study and investigation of the antiquities of this state, attributes these works to the successive Indian tribes that inhabited Wisconsin soil, as his many publications on the subject indicate.

Dr. C. A. Peterson, in his paper, "The Mound Building Age of North America," read before the Missouri Historical Society, at St. Louis, in 1902, said:

"Probably the greatest superstition that has ever grown up among a civilized people, within historic times, has been the belief in a pre-historic race of mound-builders in North America. This error has been so industriously inculcated, for several generations, that it has assumed almost the dignity of some of the ancient myths."

After a strong argument supporting this proposition, he concludes by stating:

"Let it be reiterated that there was never an iota of evidence in existence tending to establish the contention that some people, other