

however attach much importance to this circumstance. When we consider the extreme likelihood of the forgetfulness of ancient practices, in the lapse of 300 years, the lack of knowledge upon this point is the weakest of all negative evidence."—p. 140.

According to history, many of the northwestern tribes, after the advent of the whites, were continually changing their places of abode. The territory now known as Wisconsin has, within historic times, been the dwelling place of various Indian tribes and some of these might well be without knowledge concerning the mounds found in their new homes, and of which their own tribe did not build.

Hoy states that:

"None of the Indians of the present time (1886) have traditions running back as far as Allouez and Marquette, or even to the more recent time of Jonathan Carver. Is it not strange that they have no knowledge of these men?"

"The Winnebagoes and Menomonees assert positively that they never made flint arrow heads, stone axes or pottery, and that these things must have been made by someone else. White Snake, a chief of the Winnebagoes said in all sincerity, they were never made by the Indians."—Quoted from Lapham, 90.

Dr. W. J. Hoffman, who has in recent years published the results of a careful study of the history, manners and customs of the Menomonee, asserts that:—

"The Menomini Indians admit having manufactured stone weapons until "several centuries" ago. But they actually used stone arrows within a comparatively recent period, and these, on account of their rarity and the superstition connected therewith, have been retained to this day and used as amulets by the *mitä'wok*."—Hoffman, B. E. 14, 281.

The general belief that the Indians have preserved no traditions in reference to mound building is incorrect.

Col. C. W. Jenckes, superintendent of the Corundum mines in western North Carolina, says:—

"We have Indians all about us, with traditions extending back for 500 years. In this time they have buried their dead under huge piles of stone."—Foster, 149.

Gen. Geo. Rogers Clark, who was well acquainted with the Indians, states that a tradition existed among the Cherokee that the earthworks of their country were built by their ancestors. (Schoolcraft, 135.)

Clark's statement is borne out by the chronicles of De Soto's expedition. (Chr. 10th, Peabody, 75.)