

The Iroquois possessed a tradition in regard to a burial mound about six feet high, near Botavia, Genesee county, New York. Rev. Mr. Kirkland learned from them that it was raised after a battle between the Senecas and Western Indians. (Moulton, v. 1, 16.) Another tradition indicates that this mound and works near it are of Iroquois origin. (Champlain, Iroquois, 442.)

Peet says of the Wisconsin mounds:

"There are to be sure, a few among the Algonquin Indians who maintain that their ancestors built the effigies. The writer has had conversation with the son of the old Indian chief Oshkosh and put this inquiry to him. He said that the Menomonees built the mounds as tribal records, and to mark places where they had had battles. On saying that the effigies were not in the Menomonee territory, he answered that they were all over and all the tribes built them."—Preh. Am. 2, 219.

Certain Chippewa traditions attribute the building of the Wisconsin and Minnesota mounds to the Dakota.

McKenney, a former superintendent of Indian affairs, was informed by an aged Indian that the two mounds located on Lake Winnebago, Wisconsin, known as Le Grande and Le Petit Butte des Morts, were erected over the bodies of Fox warriors who had been killed in a battle with the Iroquois." (Memories, 84.)

An aged Winnebago chief is reported to have related to a Mr. Pliny Warriner in 1828, the tale of a series of battles between his tribe and the Sac and Fox, and from which the following is extracted:

"At the Blue Mounds we fought them; and there we were joined by the Pottawatomies, and they by the Menominies. At the mouth of the Wisconsin they made mounds, and put their women and children behind them, for they expected a great battle."

He explained to Mr. Warriner that certain mounds at Butte des Morts, where his party was then halted:

"Were raised, each over the grave of some renowned chief, who fell in the great battle there."—Wis. Hist. Colls., V. 1, 30.

Other traditions are not wanting, and may be consulted in the works of Fowke, Thomas and of other authors.