

## CONICAL MOUNDS.

These constitute the most numerous class of Wisconsin mounds. Thousands of them have been located. They are constructed of earth and are rounded or conical in shape, and range from 10 to 70 or more feet in diameter at their bases, and from one to as much as 12 feet in height. A very few have been found to be constructed of a mixture of stone and earth, and are called cairns. Investigation has shown that the conical mounds were erected mainly for purposes of burial. They are found throughout the state and occur both singly and in lines or clusters of a few or many, and are in the southern half of Wisconsin frequently associated in groups with effigy or linear mounds.

In northern Wisconsin they constitute almost the only class of earthen monuments, being scattered through that region either singly or in small groups. The contents of some of these northern mounds indicate that they are of quite recent construction. Among the materials accompanying interments in some of these, articles of European manufacture have been found. Elsewhere in this publication other information concerning this class of mounds is given. A conical mound is figured in Plate 1.

The oval mounds differ from the conical mounds only in form. They also were sometimes employed as places of interment. Tabular mounds are square or rectangular at their bases, the top being flattened. They are of rare occurrence in Wisconsin.

## CHAIN MOUNDS.

These consist of lines of conical mounds connected by low embankments of earth. Such structures are not of very frequent occurrence in Wisconsin. Several are figured in groups described by Lapham, and by Thomas. Mounds of this form occur in the Siouan country to the west and especially in North Dakota.

Thomas has noted that:

"The surrounding walls of the noted group in Wisconsin, known as 'Aztalan' and an extensive group in Vanderburg county, Indiana, appear to be but slight modifications of the chain-mound type. As the elongate