

VII.

Arrival of the Siouan and Algonquian Tribes in Wisconsin, The Winnebago the Authors of Wisconsin Effigy Mounds and Associated Earthworks, Concluding Remarks.

ARRIVAL OF THE SIOSAN AND ALGONQUAIN TRIBES IN WISCONSIN.

What is perhaps the most generally accepted theory of the origin of the Siouan tribes has been given in a previous issue of this publication and need not therefore be repeated in full in these pages. It is supported mainly by linguistic evidence and the traditions of some of the tribes participating in the migrations, but yet requires the proof of archaeological evidence before it can be fully accepted.

It is to the effect that the ancestors of the present western Sioux at one time resided on the eastern side of the Alleghanies, in the region of Virginia and Carolina, from whence they crossed into the region of the Ohio valley. The cause of this change of location and early separation from other tribes of the same stock, who remained behind, is thought to have been due to the pressure of the surrounding Iroquoian tribes, or to other causes. After occupying this region for a long period of time, they appear to have gradually moved westward toward the Mississippi. Some of the migrating tribes passed up the Mississippi river to the mouth of the Missouri, and others down to the Arkansas, which streams they ascended.

The Winnebago and Dakota ascended the Mississippi and entered into the region now Wisconsin. It is thought that in their coming the former, who probably occupied more particularly the southern and eastern portion of this territory, were years in advance of the latter. Centuries elapsed between this time and the discovery of the Winnebago by Nicollet, in 1634. When first known to the French, the Dakota had their principal seats in northwestern Wisconsin, around and about the western end of Lake Superior and the head waters of the Mississippi, but claimed all the Wisconsin territory, from which