

Extracts from other communications which indicate a similar trend of study and thought, might be quoted.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

The ultimate conclusions of the divisions of the subjects treated in this paper, may be briefly stated as follows:

1. The entrance of the principal mound-builders into Wisconsin appears to have been from the south and southwest. Other tribes, who erected some of the more recent conical tumuli, entered from the north and east.

2. The effigy mounds and other earthworks closely associated with them were erected during the same period, and by the same tribe or culturally related tribes.

3. No information that we now possess concerning the earthworks of our state justifies the conclusion that they are uniformly of great antiquity. The evidence is plain that of the burial mounds some were erected in early historic times. The date of the erection of the oldest mound groups may safely be placed at not to exceed three centuries previous to the discovery of America by Columbus.

4. The enclosure and closely associated works at Aztalan are the remains of an Indian village. None of the Wisconsin earthworks were built for purely religious, and none for sacrificial purposes. Cremation was not a usual practice, but the use of fire in burial ceremonies was a common custom among our ancient Indians.

5. The mounds explored give conclusive proof that the culture status of their authors was practically the same as that of the early historic tribes. Their social conditions, domestic and burial customs are not found to differ. They alike lived in villages, manufactured such implements as their manner of life required, depended for subsistence on agriculture and the chase; carried on a traffic with distant tribes, understood the art of war and defense and used the streams as their principal highways.

6. That the Wisconsin earthworks were erected by the Indians is now so well established as to scarcely admit of argument. That the authors of the effigy mounds were of Siouan