

The length of the thumb is $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches, of the index finger $10\frac{3}{4}$ inches, of the middle finger $13\frac{1}{2}$ inches, of the ring finger $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and of the little finger $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

"These figures are sunk in throughout—*intaglio*—instead of being mere outlines, and vary in depth from a quarter of an inch to fully one inch. Although the surface of the rock is rough the grooves were rubbed perfectly smooth after they were pecked or chiseled out.

"Such is a concise account of one of the most interesting antiquities of the country lying between the Trempealeau and Black rivers, and I feel gratified if by my instrumentality it shall be rescued from oblivion."

An illustration of the carvings on the ledge of this rock shelter are shown in Plate 2.

This ledge with its pictographs is reported as having been destroyed by quarrying or blasting operations. Ashes, charcoal, and potsherds found in this shelter indicated its former Indian occupation.

GALE'S BLUFF CAVE

"The Antiquities of Wisconsin," by Dr. Increase A. Lapham, published in 1855, gives a brief description of a cave which contained an Indian burial. "On the eastern border of this prairie (La Crosse prairie) are some very high bluffs, presenting towards the top perpendicular cliffs of limestone. On one of these, known as Gale's Bluff, we found a very large crevice or cave, in which, among some loose stones and sand, were several human bones; and a skull had been taken from the same place. No bones of animals could be found. The rock above the cave is perpendicular for a great height.

On the south side of the entrance are some markings, doubtless of aboriginal origin, and possibly intended to record the virtues of the person or persons whose remains are there deposited. The marks are on a soft, yellow, granular limestone; often mistaken by casual observers for sandstone. They are not deeply impressed, and have evidently been affected by the crumbling of the surface."