

conjecture, and the reader may draw his own conclusion as to whether religious or mythological ideas entered into their construction, or whether they were but casual records or idle work. Their antiquity, however, is great, as was proved by excavations made in the Samuel's cave shortly after its discovery in 1878—the only cave of the upper Mississippi that, up to this time, has been formally brought to the notice of antiquaries.”

Prof. Lewis was a former member of the Wisconsin Archeological Society. There is a general similarity in character between the pictographs found in caves in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa.

BURIAL OF WHITE FEATHER

There is much of human interest in the burial of White Feather. This well known Winnebago Indian was spending the winter in a camp on the south bank of the Wisconsin River in the town of Caledonia, Columbia County, when he was taken ill and passed into the grey shadows early in the spring, about 1900.

James and George Graham, who resided in the neighborhood, made a coffin of boards and dug a grave on a sandy knoll located a few rods west of the highway, not far south of the Indian camp. Before being placed in the coffin the remains were enshrouded in a new blanket and before being removed from the tent a separate opening from the one he entered the last time was made. A stick, colored much like the Winnebago baskets, was placed at the head of the dead Indian and each member of the tribe marched by, stepping near but not on the stick. They left the wigwam through the usual opening.

The body was placed upon a sled and hauled to the burial site. The remains were lowered into the grave by the two Grahams and their wives, after which an educated Indian who chanced to be in the camp, offered a prayer in the native tongue. The remaining Indians then placed a board across the opening and all marched in single file along the plank, going direct to their tepees. The two Grahams then filled the grave, burying the pipe and other personal belongings of White Feather with him.

The next day the Indians came to the burial site, made some dry shavings with a knife, ignited them with a match, and ob-