

the discovery of the country by the whites, shows that the skeletons found with such substances must have been interred since the whites came to the country, which does not agree well with the antiquity of trees four hundred years old, so frequently found on these mounds.

The mounds found in the county of Crawford, are of various forms and sizes. On *Prairie du Chien*, one of the largest and highest of these tumuli, having a base of some two hundred feet and about twenty feet high, of a circular form, was leveled for the present site of Fort Crawford. Another, of about the same dimensions and form, stood within the old or first Fort built at this place by the Americans, on which now stands the splendid mansion of H. L. Dousman, Esq. A cellar, well, and ice-house vault, were dug in this last, and a well dug where the first stood, but in neither were any evidences found of the design of their erection; nothing was found but bones, rifles, &c., of recent interment.

The circular form is the most common for these tumuli, but many are of different forms. Some are from one to two hundred yards long, from ten to twenty feet wide, and from two to three feet high. These frequently have an open space through them, as if intended for a gate, and they would have the appearance of breast works, if they had angles, or a rear protection, as of a fort.

Others, and especially on the dividing ridge between the Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers, in towns 8 and 9 North, of range 5 West, are in the form of birds with their wings and tails spread, and of deer, rabbits and other animals, and one which I have seen resembles an elephant. The birds lie spread out on the ground, while the other animals lie on their sides, with limbs stretched, as if on the jump. In this region, also, some few mounds resemble a man lying on his face. These mounds are from three to four feet high, at the highest points, tapering off to the extremities, corresponding with what they were intended to represent.