

Antiquities of Wisconsin

By William Barry

Few subjects have a stronger claim upon the people of the West, than the Aboriginal remains scattered over the land. They constitute the only mementos and annals transmitted to us from the ancient races that once inhabited its broad prairies, and dwelt on the rising shores of its beautiful lakes and rivers.

To the liberality of the Smithsonian Institution we are indebted for a late publication on the Antiquities of Wisconsin, a work of merit, and prepared with much research and care, by I. A. Lapham, Esq., of Milwaukee. Its typography is beautiful, while its numerous illustrations are executed in the best style of art. We have thought it might interest many readers to have a brief glance at its contents.

The antiquities described in the above publication are chiefly earth-works, with occasional excavations, varying in figure, size, and elevation. These are found in numerous localities, near the borders of the lakes, or on the margin of water-courses all over the State. It is curious to notice, that they are chiefly found at points already selected as the most favorable sites for modern settlements, showing that the instincts of both civilized and uncivilized are alike attracted to those localities which combine at once the beautiful and the useful.

In proceeding North, on Lake Michigan, the first point noticeable for its remains, is a few miles South of the Wisconsin