

some one hundred mounds, one called, from its figure, "the man," though with some inequality in the length of its members—on the basin of the fine River Wisconsin, where, at the "Dells of the Wisconsin," is an enclosure with an area of 45,000 square feet, large enough to hold 2,000 persons, fortified by double walls which may have been protected by palisades; and, at Iron Creek, is still another fort surrounded by a fosse or ditch in the form of a parallelogram, and symmetrical in its figure. We might pass on to notice the curiosities of the Lake Vieux Desert, with its beautiful island so favorable for cultivation and defence to the primitive race, and showing an interesting elliptical embankment in its centre; and the yet more attractive remains in the region of Lake Superior, where have been found mounds in the forms of mathematical figures, one a regular pyramid, like that within the walls of Aztalan.

Should the reader desire a more detailed account of these *reliques* of American antiquity, and others we have not particularly referred to at Madison and elsewhere, he will find them in Mr. Lapham's valuable memorials, from which we have freely drawn. It is gratifying that public attention is directed to these remains, which deserve a thorough examination from men of science. It is clear that but little is yet known of them. Farther and more careful examination may throw a flood of light upon the race who have left them to us, of whom we now know little more than what a glimpse at these remarkable earth mounds reveal—a few bones, a few bits of pottery, pipes wrought sometimes in artistic forms, a few rude implements—this is all. A single example of hieroglyphic characters is given us at Gale's Bluff, near La Crosse, on the Mississippi, forbidding the hope of learning much save by inference and comparison. Yet much is possible to scientific research, as is witnessed in the long obscured monuments of Egypt and Babylon.

Mr. Lapham supposes, that the race who left the greater