

ples or of the city, and then burnt by means of wood piled up on each side of the structures. In the Doctor's opinion, his Roman discovery is the first instance thus far detected of such an *inversion* of modern methods in brick-making.

Accordingly it will be pleasant for him, and perhaps for your readers, to learn of a similar procedure in the manufacture of brick among the prehistoric dwellers west of the Great Lakes of North America.

Aztalan, about fifty miles east of this capital of Wisconsin, and on the way to its principal city, Milwaukee, is the largest aboriginal monument in the northwest, and one of the largest in the United States. At that point, about eighteen acres are inclosed by a breastwork, forming three sides of a parallelogram, the fourth side lying along a stream too deep to ford. There were thirty-three projections, which were probably flanking towers.

The region was first settled by whites in 1836, and the "ancient city," as they called it, was discovered the same year. The rampart was then in some places five feet in height, in other places much broken down, and everywhere appeared a grassy bank. But wherever one dug through the green sward, he found brick, very fairly burnt, but always of irregular forms.

The ruin was described, first in the *Milwaukee Advertiser*, in January, 1837, then in *The American Journal of Science*, New Haven (vol. 44, p. 21), and more fully in the *Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge* (vol. vii, pp. 41-51). In none of these articles, however, is there any attempt to explain how the Aztalan brick were manufactured.

It was on a visit which I made to this unique work last spring that the process of brick-making there first struck me as in all probability the self-same as that just detected by Schliemann at Troy.

About all the acres at Aztalan have been plowed up for forty years. A vandalism as gross as any which has disgraced any section of the old world has driven the plow-share over and over the breast-work. Yet the soil is still full of brick fragments. I examined many of them, some as large as my fist. In the middle of one, there was a stick an inch thick burned to charcoal. In all