

reports which were published concerning these aroused much attention in scientific circles. These reports were published in the *American Journal of Science*, and in the congressional documents of the Mineral Lands, and were furnished by Mr. Richard Taylor and Mr. Stephen Taylor, and Mr. John Locke.¹

When the Smithsonian Institution was established, one of the first things to accomplish was to gather the scattered statements in reference to these and other prehistoric works of the country, and put them into a volume. This was done by Messrs. Squier and Davis, who, as residents of Ohio, had become interested in the antiquities of that State, and could furnish information of them from personal observation and survey. The material thus furnished occupied the whole of the first quarto volume of that Society's *Contributions*, which is now exceedingly valuable.

In the years 1849-50, about the time the Territory became a State, Dr. I. A. Lapham, who was an early settler, became interested in these mounds; and having prepared a volume upon the history and topography of the State, he also prepared a report of these ancient works, which was published in the fourth volume of the Smithsonian *Contributions*. Thus, fortunately, a somewhat extensive survey of the works was secured, not having been destroyed, as they since have been, by the incursions of agriculture and civilized arts. The interest, however, which was felt at the time, soon ceased, and effigy mounds and all prehistoric works dropped out of mind. The change in the mode of travel, from the private conveyance or stage coach to the railroad train, gave no opportunity for visiting them, but rather took travelers away from localities where they were.

It is a remarkable fact, that the large majority of these works were situated on the natural lines of travel, and at those prominent places which first attracted the attention of settlers. The Indian trails which remained cut deeply into the prairie soil, long after the settlement of the State, led past many of the more im-

¹ See *Silliman's Journal* for 1838, vol. xxxiv, article by Richard Taylor. See also *Silliman's Journal*, vol. xxxviii published in 1842, article by S. Taylor. Also "Wisconsin and Lake Superior Mineral Lands," *Congressional Reports*, 1840-48.