

## Sketch of Hole-in-the-Day

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By Rev. Alfred Brunson, A. M., D. D.

My first acquaintance with this celebrated Chippewa chief was in July, 1838, when I was a missionary to his tribe, on the Upper Mississippi. I next met him at La Pointe, in the fall of 1843, when I was Indian agent at that place. As he was a distinguished man, both on the river and on the lake, I naturally made all the inquiries and observations I could in reference to him. My interpreters, both in the mission and in the agency, were natives of the Chippewa country, and knew him from their youths. Lyman Warren, then (in 1843) a trader for twenty-five years among these Indians, had known this chief from a youth, and, being a man of some intelligence, and of a historic turn of mind, seemed to be well posted in this matter. I also availed myself of conversations with, and inquiries made of other traders and aged intelligent Indians. From the information thus received, and from personal observations, I am enabled to give the following facts and characteristics of this chief:

He must have been born about the year 1800, as he was about twenty years of age in 1820, when he made his first mark in his career, before the whites. He was born, as near as I could learn, not far interior from La Pointe, at a place now in the State of Wisconsin. Possessing an enterprising spirit, and a dare-devil in temperament, he was early upon the war-path, the chase, and in every enterprise calculated to give distinction in the estimation of untutored men. Having, while quite young, slain one of his nation's hereditary foes, he had consequently, according to Indian usage, a feather in his hair, and a seat in the council among the braves, where he