

integrated the surface of the rocks, and when the mineral veins and beds or belts were exposed to view. In this connection should be stated the fact, that, without exception, the copper deposits of the country are contained between the walls of hard rocks (crystalline trap) that have served the purpose of withstanding, to a great extent, the grinding force of the glaciers. In consequence of this protection, they occupy the high points of the country, and are now covered with a comparatively small depth of soil, the product of the disintegration of the rocks themselves; while the valleys of the rivers, and the lowlands bordering on the lake, have a greater depth of drift, probably the deposits of the receding glacial period. At the time the ancient miners were carrying on their work, under a climate milder and far more inviting than now, these high points were destitute of soil or trees, and for timber and fuel for their mining work they resorted to the valleys of the streams, and the lowlands bordering the great lake—where, also, were carried on their agricultural pursuits.

The implements and tools into which the pieces of native copper thus worn from the rocks were fabricated, were axes, knives, chisels, fleshers, spears, daggers, arrow-heads, awls, needles and bracelets. These tools are found scattered in wonderful profusion, from Lake Superior to Central America, and from eastern Pennsylvania on the east, to Arizona on the west. In 1870, I saw at Pittston, Pennsylvania, several of these tools, that had been recovered from the soil in that vicinity and in a newspaper correspondence from Arizona, in the winter of 1874-5 (*Detroit Free Press*), I was not in the least surprised to see mentioned the discovery, in that Territory, of what was called by the correspondent, a copper fountain. It matters not for what purpose the articles may have been used; the fact of the find is sufficient for the present purpose. These tools, however, have been found in the greatest numbers buried in the works of the mound builders throughout Wisconsin, Lake Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Tennessee, West Virginia, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Bernal Diaz, who accompanied Cortez in his expedition for the