

unconsumed, but enough to show that they belonged to the mastodon. There were also found, mingled with the ashes and bones, and partially protruding out of them, a large number of broken pieces of rock, which had evidently been carried thither from the shore of the Bourbeuse River, to be hurled at the animal by his destroyers, for the above-mentioned layer of clay was entirely void even of the smallest pebbles; whereas, on going to the river I found the stratum of clay cropping out of the bank and resting on a layer of shelving rocks of the same kind as the fragments, from which place it was evident they had been carried to the scene of action. The layers of ashes, etc., varied in thickness from two to six inches, from which it may be inferred that the fire had been kept up for some length of time. It seemed that the burning of the victim and the hurling of rocks at it had not satisfied the destroyers, for I found also among the ashes, bones and rocks, several arrow-heads, a stone spear-head and stone axes, which were taken out in the presence of a number of witnesses, consisting of the people of the neighborhood, attracted by the novelty of the excavation. The layer of ashes, etc., was covered by a strata of alluvial deposits, consisting of clay, sand and soil from eight to nine feet thick."

The preceding statements and reasonings are, therefore, sufficient for the position that the ancient miners and mound builders were contemporaneous with the mastodon, and were occupying this country at a period corresponding with the stone age of Europe.

The mound builders were not confined to the occupation of the country lying to the south of Lake Superior. Well attested and authenticated statements are made of the existence of the well-known artificial mounds in the valley of the Red River of the North, throughout Dakota, Montana, and British Columbia. It is possible that future explorers may trace their works still farther to the Northwest than investigators of this day dare predict.

It is generally conceded that during the glacial period, North America was covered with ice between the Rocky Mountains and the Atlantic coast, and from the north pole nearly to the tropics. There is sufficient evidence to suggest the belief that man inhabited