

mould, more especially if they were so carelessly finished as to leave the imprint of the mould visible, as erroneously supposed by some. Surely if these slight elevations and ridges are the imprint of the moulds, then such specimens are of recent casting, for it is evident that these delicate marks would be the first to be corroded by the tooth of time.

I make here a short extract from a paper entitled "The Ancient Men of the Great Lakes," read by Henry Gillman at the Detroit meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Mr. Gillman is a close observer, and an accomplished archaeologist, and has made the ancient mines of Lake Superior a specialty. He says: "I cannot close, however, without expressing my wondering admiration of a relic, which, taken in connection with our former discoveries, affords some of the most important evidences of the character of the ancient miners, the nature of their work, and the richness of the mineral field selected for their labors at Isle Royal. On cleaning out of the pit the accumulating debris, this mass was found at the bottom, at the depth of sixteen and one-half feet. It is of a crescent shape, and weighs nearly three tons, or exactly 5,720 pounds. Such a huge mass was evidently beyond the ability of those ancient men to remove. They could only deal with it as best they knew how. And as to their mode of procedure, the surroundings in the pit, and the corrugated surface of the mass itself, bear ample testimony—the large quantities of ashes and coals lying around it; a great number of the stone hammers or mauls, were also found near by, many of them fractured by use. With these the surface of the mass had evidently been beaten up into projecting ridges, and broken off. The entire upper face and sides of the relic presented repeated instances of this; the depressions several inches deep, and the intervening elevations with their fractured summits covering every part of the exposed superficies. How much of the original mass was removed in the manner described, it is impossible to say. But from appearances, in all probability it must have been at least one-third larger. Innumerable fragments of *copper chips lay strewn on all sides*, and even the scales of fish, evidently the remains of the meals of the miners, were recovered from the