

reptiles, &c., executed with great skill and fidelity to nature.* But though not found in such numbers, sufficient examples of this class of relics occur within the Canadian frontier to show the contemporaneous practice of the same arts and customs in this northern region, or to prove such an intercourse with the pipe-sculptors of more southern latitudes, as is assumed in the case of the "Mound Builders," by writers to whom any remote and undefined source ever seems more probable than the one under consideration. Among various examples of such Canadian relics in my own possession are two stone pipe-heads found on the shores of Lake Simcoe. One of these, formed of a dark steatite, though imperfect, exhibits in its carving—a lizard climbing up the bowl of the pipe, with the underside of its lower-jaw ingeniously cut into a human countenance peering over the pipe bowl at the face of the smoker—the same curious imitative art of the native sculptor, as those engraved by Messrs. Squire and Davis, from the ancient mounds of the Mississippi valley. The other is decorated with a human head, marked by broad cheek-bones, and large ears, and wearing a flat and slightly projecting head-dress. The material in which the latter is carved is worthy of notice, as suggestive of its pertaining to the locality where it was found. It is a highly silicious limestone, such as abounds on the shores of the neighbouring Lake Couchiching, and which from its great hardness was little likely to be chosen by the pipe sculptor as the material on which to exercise his artistic skill, unless in such a locality as this, where his choice lay between the hard, but close grained limestone, and the still more intractable crystalline rocks of the same region. Canadian examples of pipe-sculpture, in a great variety of forms, executed in the favorite and easily wrought red pipe-stone of the *Coteau des Prairies*, also occur; but these are generally supposed to belong to a more recent period, and differ essentially in their style of art from the pipes of the mound builders, worked in granite, porphyry, and limestone, as well as in the steatites, and other varieties of the more easily wrought stones which admit, like the red pipe stone, of the elaborate carving and high degree of finish most frequently aimed at by them. In addition to those, another class of pipes, of ruder workmanship in clay, and ornamented for the most part, only with incised chevron and other conventional patterns, exhibiting no traces of imitative art, are of frequent occurrence within the Canadian frontiers; and to these I propose to refer more minutely before closing this paper, as objects

*Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge. Vol. I. p. 152.