

wound received in honourable combat ; the grease with which he carefully annoints his body daily not only cleanses and protects his skin from mosquitoes, but also preserves him from colds and other diseases the white man is prone to take, if exposed as is the Indian. Probably an Indian, fresh from the Western plains, if suddenly brought into the midst of civilization, would look with equal if not greater astonishment at many of our ridiculous customs. But he asks no questions. Cocked hats, epaulets, and laced coats, have no meaning in his eyes, and are far less significant to him of the importance of their wearers, than a head-dress of eagles' quills. The fact is, every ornament of an Indian's dress bears some significant meaning ; and the high value he places on them is due to the history attached to them, or to the episodes in the wearer's life they are intended to represent. Full information on all these points would be very interesting and valuable, and a record of such would be of great value in years to come, when the full history of these forerunners of the white man comes to be written. It would open a book for many an interesting tale to be sketched, and notwithstanding all that has been written and said, there is scarcely any subject on which the people of to-day are less informed than on the character of the races fast passing away, and of whom everything but their name will soon have passed into oblivion.

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**Q**UESTIONS relating to pre-historic America are to be determined not alone by the study of the languages, customs, art, beliefs, and folk-lore of the aborigines, but also by the study of its ancient monuments. In this connection arises at once the question, Who were the mound builders? The solution of this would tend to elucidate the chain which binds together the pre-historic and the historic ages of this continent ; many wild theories would be relegated to oblivion ; and the relations of the