

islands. In such cases a canoe was sometimes used instead of a box. Now, under missionary influence and legal restraint, these people bury as do the whites of the region.

The cairns come within the field of archaeological investigation. They consist of irregular piles of bowlders, from twelve to twenty feet in diameter, thrown over the body, which was placed in the usual flexed position. In most cases it was surrounded by a rectangular vault formed by placing the straight sides of four or five bowlders toward the body, and covering the cyst thus made with one or two slab-shaped rocks. Over this the rough pile of the cairn would be reared. A few copper ornaments have been found buried in cairns. The skeletons are usually much decayed, and complete skulls from the cairns are rarely obtained. In excavating twenty-one cairns in 1897 no entire bones were secured. In 1898, however, we met with better success, obtaining a number of complete skeletons.

Several burial-mounds were formerly located along the lower Fraser River, between Hatzic and Port Hammond. The remains in them are usually much decayed, and but little is known about them. The one which we found intact was explored by us, and its contents were seen to be much decayed.

It remains to find material upon which to reconstruct a knowledge of the builders of the burial-mounds of the lower Fraser River. The map showing the distribution of cairns should be completed. The marked difference between the shell-heaps explored along the salt water, and those investigated in the delta of the Fraser River, demands