

carefully carved, but the mouth and chin are less successfully imitated. In combination with the head are the stem of a tree, and a snake, the head of the latter being at the base of the carving, from which point the body rises with a graceful curve to the left, half-way up the bowl, when it descends, passing under the chin and up the opposite or right cheek, the tail terminating almost in the middle of the pipe at the back. (Fig. 92).



FIG. 90.



FIG. 91. (Full Size).

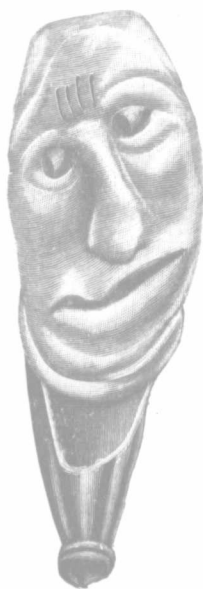


FIG. 92. (Full Size.)

What seems to be a tree stem also originates in the lower part of the neck, one small branch curving gently up the left side, while the main portion stretches up the right side, becoming forked about two-thirds of the distance from the bottom. The left and thicker division terminates at the back where it is cut off smoothly, and through this termination the stem-hole is bored. Taken altogether the work on this pipe is remarkably well done, one is almost tempted to say, suspiciously so; but there seems to be no reason to doubt its genuineness. In the curious combination of tree and serpent, theory-maniacs may easily find material either for attributing to it a spurious origin, or for the elaboration of some far-fetched arguments to prove a traditional connection with an older and higher civilization, if, indeed, the term civilization should be appropriate to the mode of life connected with which the Kentucky pipe was modeled.

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