

AMERICAN ANTIQUITIES.

BY NUMA.

(Continued.)

INCLINE to the opinion that this Continent was known also to the Greeks, because, in 1827, a Planter discovered in a field, a short distance from Monte Video, a sort of tomb stone, upon which characters, to him unknown, were cut. He caused this stone, which covered a small excavation, formed with masonry, to be raised; when he found two very ancient swords, a helmet and a shield, which had suffered much from rust; also a large earthen vessel. The Planter caused the contents of the excavation, together with the stone, to be removed to Monte Video, where in spite of the effects of time, Greek words were easily made out, which, when translated read as follows:—

“During the dominion of Alexander, the son of Philip King of Macedon, in the sixty-third Olympiad Ptolemaios.”—It was impossible to decipher the rest, on account of the ravages of time.

On the handle of one of the swords was a portrait, supposed to be that of Alexander the Great, and on the helmet was a representation of Achilles dragging Hector round the walls of Troy, executed with exquisite skill.

Traits of Egyptian manners were found among the nations of South America, and tokens of the presence of an Egyptian population, are not wanting in North America. A few years since, some stone hammers rounded after the fashion of those represented on Egyptian monuments, were found in the vicinity of Sherbrooke Street, Montreal. And in Mexico, several curious specimens of sculpture have been discovered, strongly resembling the workmanship of the ancient Egyptians. In the Caves of Tennessee and Kentucky, Mummies