

Of greater interest is the second side of the casket, which has two lines of some length each.

No. II.—hi ka ye go ha ra ni se ha ra se ha ra yo he da te ru  
 shi ta be i yo bu da mi shi ta be i yo anon ya fu ya me no  
 amida bu da yo mi

*Hikaye gohara nisehara jahara yo hedateru*  
 Hikaye anger spirit false-spirit depraved-spirit from separates.

*shita bei yo Buda me shita bei yo anonya fuyame no*  
 dead warrior from Buddha eye dead warrior from Anonya hasten will

*Amida Buda yomi*  
 Amida Buddha writing

"Hikaye. The Buddhist writing Anonya separates between the spirit of anger, the spirit of falsehood, the spirit of depravity, and the dead warrior; and between the eye of Buddha and the dead warrior; and the character Amida will hasten it."

The second line is:

hi ka ye shi ri r to shi 1 fu hi do ha ra go ha ra ha da mi ha ra shi ta  
 ta yo fu ya me no he da ta ru anon amida bu da yo mi

*Hikaye, shi ri 2 toshi 1 fu. Hidohara, gohara, hadamihara*  
 Hikaye 4 300 2 year 1 20. Cruel spirit, anger spirit, naked body spirit.

*shitata yo fuyame no hedateru Anon Amida Buda yomi*  
 love from hasten will to separate Anon Amida Buddha writing.

"Hikaye, 12 hundred, 1 score, and 2 years. The Buddhist characters Anon and Amida (tranquillity and contemplation) will hasten to separate from the love of the spirit of cruelty, the spirit of anger, and the spirit of the naked body."

Here we have a dated inscription, perfectly clear and definite. The date consists of 4 *ri-toshis*, which, as I have indicated in my essays on the Siberian and Buddhist-Indian inscriptions, are periods of 300 years, 1 *fu*, *futachi* or 20, and 2 units, making in all 1,222 years. The only Buddhist era is that of the death of the founder of their religion, or his attainment of Nirvana, which was 477 B.C. As he died in his eightieth year, his birth must have been in 557. The 1222nd year of Buddha was A.D. 745, when western Europe was in a state of barbarism. It was only 28 years later than 717, the most ancient date that American history presents, and 48 years earlier than the period of the Davenport inscriptions. As pure Japanese is found in many much later inscriptions than this, but so far there has come to light no other trace of Buddhist ritual, nor any such elaborate work of art as the Michigan mounds have furnished. A war-