

ther along, and over an extended plain are seen, like gopher hills, their excavations, ancient and recent, and on the surface of the rocks, various marks and their sculptured hieroglyphics."

¶ In succeeding letters Catlin recorded all the legends and traditions of the various tribes that he was able to gather in regard to the Red Pipestone Quarry. The following was related to him by a Knistineaux chief on the Upper Missouri: "In the time of a great freshet, which took place many centuries ago, and destroyed all the nations of the earth, all the tribes of the red men assembled on the Coteau du Prairie, to get out of the way of the waters. After they had all gathered here from all parts the water continued to rise, until at length it covered them all in a mass, and their flesh was converted into red pipe stone. Therefore it has always been considered neutral ground—it belonged to all tribes alike, and all were allowed to get it and smoke it together. While they were all drowning in a mass, a young woman, K-wap-tah-wa (a virgin), caught hold of the foot of a very large bird that was flying over, and was carried to the top of a high cliff, not far off, that was above the water. Here she had twins, and their father was the war-eagle, and her children have since peopled the earth. The pipe stone,

