

no pits or excavations were found. As the cutting was, made patches of charcoal, ashes, and burned clay appeared, mixed irregularly throughout the soil to a depth of four feet. Below this level the ashes and charcoal were more regularly disposed in streaks, and in places the earth seemed to be burned, requiring the use of a pick to loosen it. At this level, also, the remains of some oak timber were uncovered at the west side of the mound, which covered the remains of a human being, interred in a sitting position. The wood was in such a state of decay that it crumbled to dust in the hand, though often showing the lines of fibre and growth, the dust being of a bright red color. In the upper section of 4 feet, amongst the scattered patches of ashes and charcoal mixed through the loam, were found a number of skeletons, evidently "intrusives," as some of them were in a comparatively fair state of preservation, the smaller bones only having disappeared. They had all been buried with the faces upward and were unaccompanied by ornaments or other manufactured articles. It was at once evident to me that they were later interments than the original remains found at the bottom of the mound. There is recorded the fact that during an epidemic of smallpox, about the year 1780, the Indians along the Red River buried their dead in the mounds in this locality, and which were not made by themselves. Without doubt, these "intrusives" found by me were the bodies of the smallpox victims, the Indians departing from their usual mode of scaffold burial to avoid contagion. The late Senator Donald Gunn was informed of this circumstance by an old Indian who had been a resident of the district at the date mentioned. On the level of the natural surface of the ground a platform or layer of round boulder stones was found, beneath a smooth burnt clay floor, apparently dipping lightly towards the centre, which I was unable to uncover at the time, and cannot accurately describe, but it very closely answers the description of the "clay altars" of Squier and Davis. The skeleton of a man of rather above the ordinary stature was found in a sitting position surrounded by several piles or bundles of bones, each surmounted with a skull. These bundles seemed to consist of the main bones and skull of one individual to each pile, and had evidently been brought there for reburial about the central figure. These remains were very much decomposed, crumbling into fragments on exposure to the atmosphere. Some of the bones of the right foot of the sitting skeleton were found in a lump of clay, but these were the