

sions; the former is of the same cherty stone as that from which the arrows or "flints" are generally formed.

There can hardly be a doubt that these large objects were used as spades or as hoes. The surface soil on the island is light and might be readily stirred by means of these tools, even if held directly in the hand, but is not improbable that they were attached to a handle.

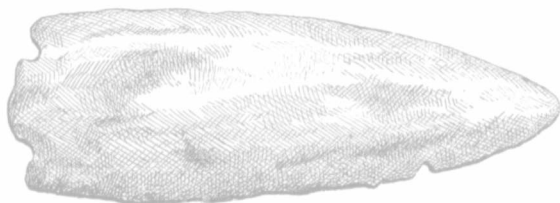


FIG. 85. ($\frac{1}{2}$ Size.)

Some of the smaller specimens from the same place are of quartzite, in one (Fig. 85) the material is of a pale, milky hue, and presents a beautiful appearance. The lower portion of the neck has been broken off.



FIG. 86. ($\frac{1}{2}$ Size.)

Fig. 86 is also a fine weapon. The quartzite has rich dark veins running through it. Neither in this case nor in that of Fig. 85 does the cut do anything like justice to real appearance of the stone.

Some of these were found by Mr. C. A. See, of "Tremont Park," in which the mound is situated, and some were found by myself when examining the place subsequently. Those that may be regarded as agricultural implements, are very thin in proportion to their length and breadth.

With regard to the vexed question, Who were the Mound Builders? I venture the opinion that these relics and those of copper, referred to elsewhere, which were found in the same place, afford a strong argument in favor of the belief that the people hitherto spoken of as an extinct race, were none other than the Indians themselves. That the historic or recent Indian knows nothing whatever regarding the origin of the remarkable earth-heaps, known as mounds, is no more singular than that they are now totally ignorant of the uses of many such comparatively modern implements and utensils as are to be found in almost every collection.

As a people, they have simply changed their habits—slowly, no doubt, and in the absence of any literature, tradition has failed to preserve a record of obsolete customs, excepting in so far as these may be mentioned incidentally in their mythology.

The Institute was fortunate in having secured all the characteristic specimens found in the Tremont Park Mound, and special thanks are due to Mr. C. A. See, the proprietor, for his generosity not only in presenting the specimens he himself had found, but for permitting us to prosecute a further search, and thus to add many more valuable articles.