

Uxmal and Mayapan are events referred to with great exactness in the traditions of Yucatan; and the fact that many of the structures of that country are of comparatively recent origin is sufficiently evident from their investigation, in themselves, apart from traditional or historical aids. The constructions of mounds occasionally by our Northern savage Indian tribes, often by the partially civilized Floridians, and generally by the Peruvians and Auracians, is sufficiently shown by the facts which I have brought together in the Appendix to my work upon the Aboriginal Monuments of New York. I have there also shown that a portion of the earth-works in Northern Ohio and New York, which, misled by erroneous representations as to their true character, I had classified (in the work to which Dr. Zestermann so often refers) as of the same system with those of the Mississippi Valley, are of a different origin and later date, and were actually built by the tribes found in occupation of the country at the time of the discovery by Europeans in the 15th century.

The fatal deficiency, the effect of which Dr. Zestermann so well comprehends, does therefore exist. A portion certainly, and probably all, of the monuments of America, were constructed by nations belonging to the great American family—that race which, under all of its aspects, in language, religion, and in physical traits, betrays conclusive evidences of unity, and radical separation from all the other great families of men. How far casual and partial migrations or intermixtures from abroad have introduced new elements into the religions, new features into the civil and social organizations, new forms into the monuments, or new traits into the physical constitution of this race, it is of course, difficult, if not impossible, to say; it may, nevertheless, be claimed, that if such migrations and intermixtures have occurred, they have been without any extended or decided, not to say without any perceptible, effect.