

The pottery thus found along with these diminutive Indian clay pipes, is obviously therefore a relic of former centuries, though exhibiting no such evidence as would necessarily suggest a remote antiquity. Similar examples found to the south of the Great Lakes, are thus described by Mr. Squier, in his *Aboriginal Monuments of the State of New York*: "Upon the site of every Indian town, as also within all the ancient enclosures, fragments of pottery occur in great abundance. It is rare, however, that any entire vessels are recovered. Those which have been found, are for the most part gourd-shaped, with round bottoms, and having little protuberances near the rim, or oftener a deep groove, whereby they could be suspended. A few cases have been known in which this form was modified, and the bottoms made sufficiently flat to sustain the vessel in an upright position. Fragments found in Jefferson County seem to indicate that occasionally the vessels were moulded in forms nearly square, but with rounded angles. The usual size was from one to four quarts; but some must have contained not less than twelve or fourteen quarts. In general there was no attempt at ornament; but sometimes the exteriors of the pots and vases were elaborately, if not tastefully ornamented with dots and lines, which seem to have been formed in a very rude manner with a pointed stick or sharpened bone. Bones which appear to have been adapted to this purpose are often found. After the commencement of European intercourse, kettles and vessels of iron, copper, brass, and tin, quickly superseded the productions of the primitive potter, whose art at once fell into disuse."*

In an able summary of the "*Archæology of the United States*," embodying a resumé of all that has been previously done, Mr. Samuel F. Haven remarks: "In order to estimate correctly the degree of skill in handicrafts possessed by the people who were found in occupation of the soil, we must go back to a time antecedent to the decline in all domestic arts which resulted immediately on intercourse with the whites. So soon as more effective implements, more serviceable and durable utensils, and finer ornaments, could be obtained in exchange for the products of the chase, their own laborious and imperfect manufactures were abandoned."† But just as this reasoning must unquestionably prove in many cases, it fails of application in relation to the absence of the potter's art among the Indians of the North West, for the substitutes found for it are of native manufacture, and present a much greater dissimilarity to the pro-

* *Aboriginal Monuments of the State of New York.* Page 75.

† *Smithsonian Contributions.* Vol. VIII. Page 155.