

their dead under the ground ; they even prefer to place them in a tree-top.

“ The skeleton now in the possession of Mr. Hastings is that of a very small human being, having some of the peculiarities of the Siwash or the Chinese. It is also argued, by those who claim that the Mongolian tribes of Northern China and the Indian races of the coast are the same family, that in the existence of these graves is found another proof of their theory. To this day the Llamas of Manchuria and Mongolia continue the custom of burying their dead in a kneeling posture, often cross-legged, after the Buddhistic style. The moment life has fled, the body is made to take this position, and in this posture is committed to the earth.

“ It is thought that the stone graves in and about this city bear the heavy slab covering they do to protect the bodies placed therein from the wild beasts. The graves themselves are in good preservation, and in a few have been found arrow-heads, but no other implements or utensils. The race thus buried were evidently a race of dwarfs ; but the skull is of better shape than that of the present generation of Coast Indians. Signs of rude entrenchments or fortifications, supposed to have been thrown up by the same race, have also been discovered near this city ; and a paper upon them and the supposed builders, will very shortly be published.”

The disposing of their dead is one of the peculiarities for tracing and distinguishing the races, and more even than that, it affords a clue to the origin of the race or tribe, inasmuch as the form of burial is, as it were, one of the connecting links in the chain of customs traceable to the original stock ; and as in the case above mentioned, a similarity with natives of Manchuria and Mongolia is pointed out, and an approach to the Buddhist style of sepulture. It is very essential to the student of Indian antiquities, that records of discoveries now made be carefully kept,