

and dishes of many shapes. The heads are from one inch to three inches in diameter; the statuettes from two to ten inches in height, and the vessels from two inches to upwards of a foot high. Some of the stone specimens are quite massive—the largest one stands twenty-six inches high, and the heaviest must weigh about thirty pounds. Most of the large stone objects are carved in human form (idols perhaps) and in various positions—standing, kneeling, sitting cross-legged, hands on knees, and in other attitudes. The stone of which these are made is mainly a porous, tufaceous-looking substance, but in some instances it is of close-grained quality, and correspondingly heavy, as, for example, in the case of an enormous frog fourteen inches in length, no doubt also an object of worship. An exceptionally fine piece of carving is that of a human figure nearly a foot high seated in a sort of Buddhistic position. The body inclines forward, the legs are crossed, and the hands rest on the knees. The features are fairly well brought out, (the nose is very prominent), and the head-dress is so perfectly carved that one may see here not only a fashion of the time, but even the mode of fastening the article on. Similar remarks apply to a somewhat elaborate necklace, or collar, the knot of which at the back is worked out in detail. One of the most remarkable specimens is, perhaps, representative of Quetzacoatl, one of the chief Aztec deities. It is simply a coiled snake showing the ins and outs of the convolutions, with the head lying at rest on the top. Another stone object is upwards of a foot high, and about nine inches in diameter. In general outline it resembles a sand-glass, or, still more closely, an old-fashioned wooden egg-cup, and like it, too, is hollowed at both ends. The outside is covered with knobs or bosses, except where a human figure is carved.

Not the least valuable portion of this collection is a small quantity of obsidian arrow-heads, and "sacrificial knives," so-called, and three cores of the same material from which flakes have been struck off.

Only reference can now be made to such other objects as counters, spindle-whorls, masks, whistles, and rattles. It would require a good-sized volume to describe and illustrate the whole of this valuable collection. Of but one piece have I cause to entertain even the faintest suspicion, and in this case my suspicion amounts almost to a certainty. It is of a large, and eminently venerable looking pipe—at first sight; but the more I examine it, and the more I think about it, the more I am convinced that it has no relationship to the other objects in the collection—it is an intruder. It would have been strange, indeed, had not the ancient Indians of Mexico arrived at a knowledge of the use of tobacco, and it is quite certain that they had, but they do not appear to have employed it to anything like the same extent as their northern congeners did, and I have yet to find any reference to an Aztec pipe, otherwise than in the form of a bamboo tube.

By exchange we have added to our pottery collection thirty-eight very good specimens of Puebla and modern New Mexican Indian manufacture, and one excellent specimen of the Cliff-dwellers' handiwork. The Puebla vessels are in almost every case perfect, and vary in size from two inches in diameter to nearly fourteen. Three of them are quite black, and provided with handles extending across the top and are said to be of Zuni make. Those of more recent production are small, glazed, and tawdry-looking even when compared with the commonest-looking specimen of older type.

The most recent addition to our pottery consists of three pieces of modern Mexican make presented by Mr. Allan Cassells.

Each year adds to our difficulties in finding room. At the present moment some of our most valuable material is devoid of proper protection.

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