

After partially opening several mounds in the vicinity of those already mentioned and with the same result as to general characteristics, we fortunately chose a mound which to all appearances had not been previously disturbed. Commencing upon the top of it and throwing out all the material from the centre of the work to the natural level of the soil beneath, we were enabled thoroughly to inspect its contents, and from very full notes made during the examination, the substance of what follows is taken. Figure 1, Plate I., presents a view of a portion of the mound, and the excavation made, with the position of a perfect skeleton, found in a sitting posture, over the head of which stands an oak stump, now measuring eight feet in circumference, but from which the tree has been felled probably thirty years. A short distance from this stump stands a red cedar one, also represented in the sketch, measuring four feet two inches in girth, and from which the tree has likewise been cut a number of years.

Figure 2, Plate I., is a diagram showing position of articles found during the examination. Figure 3, Plate I., shows a section of the mound exhibiting general features of construction.

Upon breaking the surface of this work, at a point designated by figure 10 in diagram, we came upon a flat limestone lying horizontally a few inches beneath the surface, under which were found a few fragments of human bones, and pieces of birch bark, together with a sharpened bone implement,* worn smooth by use, and in its present state nearly eight inches long.

About two feet from the surface, on removing a flat stone, three crania were exposed, in what appeared to be a rude box, composed of flat limestones. One of these crania, being uppermost, was broken by the carelessness of one of the labourers employed to excavate. It was smaller than the other two and rested upon them. Of the other heads, one laid upon its side, facing north, the body of which would lie due east and west, the feet being towards the east. The other one shewed the skull uppermost as if the body had been placed erect. On clearing away the broken stone and soil a great many bones were found, in fact almost entire skeletons; and from their positions, these evidently belonged to the heads in the box. The latter had probably been separated from them by the compression of the sides of the box

* Similar implements are mentioned in *Smithsonian Contributions*, Vol. I. page 220, Fig. 119, Nos. 1 & 3. "They were obtained," it is there stated, "from a mound in Cincinnati, and were evidently formed from the tibia of the elk."