

was thicker below than above, and externally it sloped gently inwards from the bottom up, its average thickness being about eighteen inches. Its situation and structure, together with the absence of a roof and of the remains of domestic articles, afford evidence that it served as a signal or military station.

At three o'clock in the morning of a long and bright summer's day, my saddle-horse and that of my assistant stood at the door of the ranch house in readiness to carry us to the top of a peak some two miles distant, and upon which was a natural column of rock bearing prehistoric ruins. We soon mounted our steeds, forded the stream, and began the toilsome and dangerous ascent of the mountain, stopping to rest our sure-footed animals more and more frequently as we ascended. At length, after about three hours' continuous climbing, we reached a spot where we were obliged to abandon the horses and make the remainder of the trip on foot. In a short time we came to the rock column, which, although hard and solid, was much disintegrated, and had been vertically cleft and separated, leaving a dangerous gap between its two inclined and overhanging portions. By the aid of cedar poles we succeeded in clambering to its summit, and there, in a situation that commanded a magnificent view of many cañons and hills, we found the ruins of four circular stone structures, which, in my opinion, had once formed a lookout and signal military station. They were arranged upon the flat top of the rock in such a manner that three smaller ones, each capable of holding but one man, occupied the front and most exposed places, one of them being in advance of the other two, which were nearer the sides of the rock. The fourth and largest stone structure held a place several yards in the rear of the three small ones, but from it a clear view of a wide and extended tract of country could also be obtained. They were all destitute of openings except at the top, and their walls sloped inwards from below, so that the opening in each of the three small structures was small, and only sufficient to allow the entrance or exit of one person. Utah, being on the outskirts of the country occupied by a great nation whose headquarters were probably in Mexico, might properly be expected to be provided with a considerable number of military posts or watch stations such as those herein described. There is no evidence that these structures were used as either dwellings or store-houses; but both of the latter occur at lower elevations, and in the neighborhood of the lookout stations.

Besides the ruins aforesaid, I explored many others in this cañon. One of them was simply a small natural cave in the face of the cliff, improvements having been effected by the addition of mixed mud in several parts of it. From another house ruin the skeleton of a typical Cliff Dweller with flattened occiput was taken at a depth of five feet beneath the floor.

Some fifty miles southwest of Nine-mile Cañon, and within a few miles of the town of Price, there is a little stone and adobe house in a natural cave well up in the face of a high, perpendicular cliff. It was explored by me in June, 1892. This little building is nearly circular, and about three and a half feet in diameter and four feet in

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