

gether with the innumerable mounds and monstrous fortifications, which are scattered over America, in England, and on the continent of Europe, how would their virtuosi examine, and their antiquarians fill volumes, with their probable histories. How would their fame be conveyed from learned bodies, and through literary volumes, inquiring who were the builders, of what age of the world, whence came they, and their descendants; if any, what has become of them; these would be the themes of constant speculation and inquiry.

At Marietta, a place not only celebrated as being the first settlement on the Ohio, but has also acquired much celebrity, from the existence of those extensive and supposed fortifications, which are situated near the town. They consist of walls, and mounds of earth, running in strait lines, from six to ten feet high, and nearly forty broad at their base. There is also, at this place, one fort of this ancient description, which encloses nearly *fifty* acres of land.

There are openings in *this* fortification, which are supposed to have been, when thronged with its own busy multitude, "used as gateways, with a passage from one of them, formed by two parallel walls of earth, leading towards the river.

This contrivance was undoubtedly for a defence against surprise by an enemy, while the inhabitants dwelling within should fetch water from the river, or descend thither to wash, as in the Ganges, among the Hindoos. Also the greatness of *this* fort is evidence, not only of the power of its builders, but also of those they feared. Who can tell but they may have, by intestine feuds and wars, exterminated themselves. Such instances are not unfrequent among petty tribes of the earth. Witness the war between Benjamin and his brother tribes, when but a mere handful of their number remained to redeem them from complete annihilation. Many nations, an account of whom, as once existing, is found on the page of history, now, have not a trace left behind. More than sixty tribes which once traversed the woods of the west, and who were known to the first settlers of the New-England states, are now extinct.

The French of the Mississippi have an account, that an exterminating battle was fought in the beginning of the 17th century, about one hundred and thirty-two years ago, on the ground where Fort Harrison *now* stands; between the Indians living on the Mississippi, and those of the Wabash. The bone of contention was,