

however, be added on the burial mounds or tumuli of this region.

These, like the old middens, are the monuments of a forgotten race. Not one that the writer has examined or has any knowledge of belongs to the modern tribes. They are scattered up and down the Province, usually on the bank of a river or on some rocky eminence overlooking lake or sea. There are many types of them, but the most common are characterized by the following features: A rectangular or circular periphery of varying dimensions, formed by a wall of rocks or boulders, in the central space of which the corpse was laid and then covered up with a huge heap of stones. Sometimes they were left in this condition; at others, the pile of rocks as well as the enclosing wall was covered with clay and sand of different kinds in alternating layers, the whole forming a huge mound originally many feet in height. Upon the central strata of some of these, sacrificial or mortuary fires have been built, which have left a distinct stratum of ashes and charcoal. Sometimes it appears that the corpse was first cremated and its ashes only placed in a kind of cist in the centre of the mound. One remarkable peculiarity of these tombs is that each one contained only one body. Scores have been opened, but in every instance the evidence of single interment is clear and unmistakable. This is the more remarkable when the time and labor necessary to the construction of these sepulchres is considered. The modern Indians of this region, as far as they know themselves or their traditions reveal, never disposed of their dead in this manner. The usual mode of burial with them was to place the doubled-up body in a blanket or box and suspend it from the branches of a tree, or to place it on some lonely island or in a slab-hut prepared for the purpose in the woods. They have no knowledge of these homes of the dead or of those who erected them. They undoubtedly antedate their advent here.

This short sketch of the native races of this region may best be concluded in the words of the veteran ethnologist, Horatia Hale—"No other field of ethnological