

northern in their habitat, I take it, were among the last of the Toltecs who survived. The white man but arrived upon the scene to succeed the farmer, the metal worker and the potter, who had passed away so disastrously, and to be the avenger of the lost race, in driving before him the savage red man.

I believe our grand mound to be the earliest in the region of the Takawamis. It is the largest in the region. I arrive at its age in the following way : Where it now stands, so striking an object, it is about one-third of a mile above the point where the Bowstring River enters the Rainy River. If, however, from the top of the mound you look southward through the trees, a view may be got of the silver stream of the Bowstring, coming as if directly toward the mound. Originally, no doubt, this tributary flowed close by the mound, for the mound would undoubtedly be built on the extreme point ; but as from year to year the Bowstring River deposited the detritus carried down by it, it formed a bank or bar, and was gradually diverted from its course, until now the peninsula, some hundreds of yards across its base, has become upwards of a third of a mile long. I infer that this peninsula, which I should say contains some seventy acres, has been formed since the mound—which from its position seems for observation as well as for sepulture—was begun. Some 200 yards down the point from the grand mound occurs another small mound. This is some eight or ten feet high, and fifty or sixty feet across. Along the point, and close past this small mound, runs an old watercourse, now a treeless hay meadow. At high water in spring, as I ascertained, the river still sends its surplus water by this old channel. My position is that the 200 yards of earth, between the site of the grand mound and that of the small mound, was deposited after the grand mound was begun, and before the commencement of the small mound. Undoubtedly this small mound, as well as a similar one not far up the river from the grand mound, were begun on account of the laborious work of carrying bones and earth to such a height ; and on account of the numerous interments, which have left the surface of the grand mound a bone pile. This is shown by the small mound being on a site more recent than that of the large mound. Suppose a hundred years to have sufficed to raise the small mound to its height, when the devastating ruin of the Sioux slaughtered the last mound-builder and checked the mound. From our previous position, this would represent a point some 500 years ago. But during this 500 years, according to our hypothesis, all of the point of land below the small mound, that is to say about 300 yards in length, has been formed. The question then is, how long, at the same rate, must it have taken the 200 yards between the two mounds to form ? This brings us then to a point say 300 years before the time of beginning of the small mound. We thus arrive at about 800 years ago, as the time when the