

carvings and paintings of Mexico. Throughout the whole elaborate illustrations of Lord Kingsborough's great work it is difficult to discover a trace of Mexican images connected with the tobacco-pipe, and in no one can I discern anything which appears to represent a pipe-stem. In volume IV, plate 17, of a series copied from a Mexican painting preserved at Paas, in Hungary, a figure coloured as a black carries in his hand a plain white pipe, already referred to as somewhat of the form of the larger clay pipes found in Canada and in the State of New York, and from the bowl rises yellow flames. On plate 57 of the same volume, copied from a Mexican painting in the Borgian Museum, in the College of the Propaganda at Rome, may be seen another figure, holding what seems a small clay tobacco pipe, from whence smoke proceeds. One or two other pictures appear to represent figures putting the green tobacco leaf, or some other leaf, into the pipe, if indeed the instrument held in the hand be not rather a ladle or patera. But any such illustrations are rare, and somewhat uncertain; and it appears to be undoubted that the tobacco pipe was not invested in Central America with any of those singular and sacred attributes which we must believe to have attached to it among the ancient Mound Builders of the Mississippi Valley; and which under other, and no less peculiar forms, are reverently maintained among the native tribes of the North-West, constituting one of the most characteristic peculiarities of the American aborigines, and one well deserving of the careful study of the Ethnologist.

Assuming it as a fact, demonstrated by a variety of independent evidence, that the singular practice of smoking narcotics originated among the native tribes of America, and was communicated for the first time to the Old World, after its discovery by Columbus, it becomes a subject well worthy of consideration how rapid and universal was the diffusion of this custom throughout the world. Not only have Europe and Asia, in later times, disputed with America the origin of this luxurious narcotic art; but travellers who return from the mysterious tropical centre of old Africa find there, in like manner, the use of the tobacco pipe, among tribes to whom the sight of the first white man is strange and repulsive. Such facts are worthy of very careful consideration by the Ethnologist. They prove how fallacious is that mode of reasoning, which, in treating of the natural history of man, takes no account of the predominating influences of reason, intellect, and experience, as manifested even among the rudest savages; and seeks to apply the same law to