

It is not unlikely that sufficient proof will soon be forthcoming to show us very clearly that the Mound-Builder race theory is foundationless, and that all the highly imaginative speculations relating to an exterminated people have no good ground on which to rest.

As a rule holes made by the aborigines in the various articles they produced, are round, the result of drilling. An elliptical hole is rarely met, but in Fig. 52 the perforation which has been made from right to left, a little above the inner angle, is a well-formed oval. A hole of this shape indicates considerable advancement in mechanical ideas, because it could have been formed only by drilling two small holes side by side, and then cutting away the separating material.



FIG. 52. ($\frac{1}{4}$ Size.)



FIG. 53. ($\frac{1}{4}$ Size.)

Polished stones like Fig. 53 are very rare and their use is doubtful. Even as ceremonial objects it is not easy to divine what part they played. Shorter and proportionately thicker specimens are sometimes found having a hole bored diagonally at each end from the flat surface outwards, and it has been suggested that they were used as hand-pieces in the middle of bow-strings, but Fig. 53 is too long and too slender for such a purpose, unless we suppose it to have been intended for attachment to a purely ornamental weapon. There are no holes at the extremities.

TOTEMS OR TRIBE SYMBOLS.



FIG. 54. ($\frac{1}{4}$ Size.)



FIG. 55. ($\frac{1}{4}$ Size.)

There is much difference of opinion regarding the use of such specimens as are figured here (Figs. 54 and 55). They have been believed by some to be "totems," or tribe-emblems, but Mr. H. Gillman, in his report to the Smithsonian Institute, 1875, says: "I have learned, through an aged Indian, that in olden times these ornaments were worn on the heads of Indian women, but only after marriage. I have thought that these peculiar objects which are always made of some choice material, resemble the figure of a brooding bird; a familiar sight to the 'children of the forest' that thus they are emblematic of maturity, and as such were designed and worn."

Fig. 54 is plainly meant to represent a bird, although the form is somewhat conventionalized. The eyes are enormously out of proportion, being nearly of the same diameter as the head itself. They project by means of a footstalk nearly half an inch from the sides of the head, but this is not well brought out in the engraving. The two