

ditz, in the province of Sachsen, kingdom of Prussia, may also be likened to the American circular structures.—Lastly, there are found in America many semi-circular embankments with a ditch on the inside.¹⁶ They resemble the earth-works known in Germany by the name of Pagan Forts (Heidenschanzen), and are of very frequent occurrence ; they differ from the latter, however, in having no artificially or naturally elevated base, but rise above the surrounding plain only to the height of the embankment. Mounds in the form of the Heidenschanzen have not yet been found in America.

Along with the larger circles there occur in America a multitude of *small circles formed of low embankments*.¹⁷ They are regarded as the foundations of dwellings of the people who constructed the earth works, and by some, less correctly, as the bases of unfinished mounds—a supposition which is contradicted by their number and the regularity of their forms. These circles have their counterparts in the circular hollows surrounded by low walls of earth, frequently met with in the basin of the Baltic and German Ocean, usually from ten to twelve feet, and sometimes one hundred feet in diameter, and from three to four feet deep, which are supposed to be the foundations of dwellings such as the natives of Eastern Siberia still make use of in the winter. They are met with in many parts of Germany, France, and England ; and are called in France, mardelles or margelles, and in England, pen-pits.¹⁸

We pass over the other American earth-works in the form of animals, described by Squier as existing in Wisconsin ; because one like them are found in Europe.

The material of which these embankments are constructed is taken for the most part from the surface of the ground on which they stand ; accordingly it consists chiefly of earth, but sometimes also of stone in masses of various size.

The *artificial mounds* occurring in America, as well as those in Europe, are found to have been erected, some as look-outs or watch-posts,¹⁹ and some as sepulchral tumuli. The watch-posts are mounds thrown up singly on elevated points and also in the midst of enclosures ; in both hemispheres they contain nothing peculiar, and from their nature are of course very similar. It is otherwise with the mounds of sepulture ; on the peculiar construction of which the religion, manners, and customs of the people must necessarily have exercised a great influence. Hence while the agreement in the form and position of the mounds of observation in different countries is a matter of no importance, the similarity and even identity of the

16. Squier, Anc. Mon. Pl. XXXIV. et sæpe.

17. Squier, Anc. Mon. Pl. XVI. and XXIV.

18. Keferstein, Ansichten, pp. 51, 134, 148, 192, sqq. 203.

19. Squier, Anc. Monum, Chap. VI., sqq.