

and the remains of some of their fur wrappings indicated a much shorter interval since their deposition.

The writer in the *Globe*, while hesitating to offer any very decided opinion, is inclined to believe that the remains are those of warriors, slain in battle. The chief grounds for this view are stated as follows:—

1. "In the spring, a skeleton was found at a short distance from the burrow, with every evidence of having been struck down by a tomahawk.

2. The height, where the remains were found, is one admirably fitted for a battle field.

3. The bodies seem to have been hastily interred. Most of them had on their ordinary dresses. A few remains of these were found with the fur yet perfect, the skins neatly sewn, and the fringe-like ornaments peculiar to Indian dresses, still distinct and undecayed. The corpses appear to have been hastily thrown in, and little or no earth thrown over them, as the only covering found over them was that formed by the accumulation of leaves that have fallen since their interment."

The relics, however, with which these human remains were accompanied seem irreconcilable with this view of the case. There was not only an absence of weapons of war,—which we cannot suppose would have been entirely removed when such objects as copper kettles, and the cumbrous tropical shells were left; but the latter are not objects with which a war party would be likely to burden themselves. The so-called burrow was more probably an Ossuary, into which the remains of the dead were promiscuously heaped, in accordance with known Indian customs, after the final honors and sacrifices had been rendered to the deceased. One of these Ossuaries, in the Township of Beverly, from which specimens of the same class of tropical shells were procured, has been noticed in this Journal, (Old Series, vol. III, p. 156.) The depression by which the locality of these recently discovered relics was indicated, is no doubt mainly ascribable to the decay of the human remains interred there. Dr. Schoolcraft speaks of some of these cemeteries as "Sepulchral trenches or Ossuaries, in which the bones of entire villages would seem to have been deposited;" and the appearance of hasty and partial inhumation described above has been noted in other examples.

The locality where these relics have been found appears to present a rich field for investigation; and it is gratifying to find such discoveries meeting with the attention evinced on this occasion. The narrator of the above facts observes: "The elevated ground that lies between Lakes Simcoe and Huron, seems to have been, in former ages, a favorite home of the Red Man. Abounding with numerous valleys, and studded with hills of various sizes, it has formed an admirable field for those sudden surprises and those stealthy attacks that distinguish Indian warfare. From its central position, it was probably a battle field for the hostile tribes residing in Canada, on the one hand, and the north-western nations on the other. This advantageous position of the district was discerned by the military genius of Sir John Colborne, who, with his wonted sagacity, foresaw that only amid those glens and wooded heights could a successful resistance be made to an invasion from the neighboring States. He accordingly matured a scheme for settling the district with military colonists, and establishing a chain of Indian settlements along the line of portage that connects Lake Couchiching and Georgian Bay. Various circumstances, however, prevented his plan from being successfully