

RELICS OF A LOST RACE.

Visit an Indian Mound at St. Louis—Interesting Discoveries.

The St. Louis Democrat has the following sketch, which will be found interesting to the general reader, as well as to the antiquarians.

The mound is about a mile from the ferry landing. It was originally forty feet in height, oval in shape, and about three hundred feet long.

The bones of the whites were carefully placed in pine coffins and reinterred in a suitable place. Some of the skulls had the hair on the forehead comparatively fresh.

The bones of the Indians were treated in a manner characteristic of the intercourse between the whites and the red men of the forest—they were rudely shovelled aside, and any one desirous of adding to his anatomical cabinet was free to help himself.

The remains of the first of lowest strata attracted more attention than the others. The bones were very much decayed, no skulls being found entire, and the hair being disappeared.

The evidence shows that the woman poisoned her child and then deliberately committed suicide. The persons seem to have been suffering from the most acute poverty.

Not the least interesting of the objects brought to light were the eight cedar posts previously mentioned in this paper. Two of these posts were on exhibition at a saloon near by.

Indian mounds are so common in the West that many people pay no attention to them; yet there are others who would like to know something of their origin and uses.

Many of these ancient structures are undoubtedly of sacred origin; but the most common monuments in the Mississippi valley are simple places of sepulture.

With the remains of the dead in the sepulchral mounds, are also within those connected with the religion of their builders, many relics of art have been discovered.

of the Mississippi valley (says a writer on the subject) indicate that the ancient population was numerous and widely spread, as shown from the number and magnitude of their works, and the extensive range of their occurrence.

It is impossible that a population for whose protection such extensive military works were necessary, and which was able to defend them, should not have been eminently agricultural; and such monuments as the mounds at Grave Creek and East St. Louis indicate not only a dense agricultural population, but a state of society essentially different from that of the modern race of Indians north of the tropics.

As regards the antiquity of their monuments, it is remembered that none of them occur on the latest formed of the river terraces which mark the subsidence of the western streams; and as there is no good reason why their builders should have avoided erecting them on that terrace, while they raised them promiscuously on all the others, it follows, not unreasonably, that this terrace has been formed since these works were erected.

From this and other facts, it is estimated that these mounds were formed not less than 500 years ago. By whom built, and whether their authors migrated to remote lands under the combined attractions of a more fertile soil and more congenial climate, or whether they disappeared beneath the victorious arms of an alien race, or were swept out of existence by some direful epidemic or universal famine, are questions probably beyond the power of human investigation to answer.

CRIME IN SYRACUSE.

Child Murder and Suicide—A Tale of Suffering.

The Syracuse Courier of Tuesday says:—Monday afternoon Policeman Eckle was informed that a woman living with a little daughter in the rear of No. 313 Townsend street, back of the German Church, had not been seen for some time, and it was feared that something was wrong.

The evidence shows that the woman poisoned her child and then deliberately committed suicide. The persons seem to have been suffering from the most acute poverty.

The mother lay lengthwise upon the front side of the bed, her right arm partially under her head, which rested on the side of the bedstead, allowing the hair to fall over the side. The little girl lay crosswise in the bed, her feet almost touching the wall, her arms by her side, and her head resting on her mother's breast and against her face.

The dividend received by a policy-holder is the difference between the actual cost of insurance and the premium paid. This company is expressly required by its charter to divide every dollar of surplus thus arising among its policy-holders.

The New York report for 1870 shows that the assets of this company are the proportion of \$150 to every \$1 of liabilities, thus insuring perfect solvability.

It has received the approbation of the most learned actuaries, and is endorsed and recommended by many of the most prominent scientific and public men in the United States.

Those who open letters belonging to friends, under the presumption that they have a right to do so, may do well to take warning by the punishment of James Warner, a citizen of St. Louis.

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INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA. JANUARY 1, 1870. Capital \$500,000 Assets \$2,783,581 Losses Paid since organization \$23,000,000

STATEMENT OF THE ASSETS. First Mortgage on City Property \$766,450 United States Government and other Loan Bonds 1,128,546 Railroad, Bank, and Canal Stocks 55,705 Cash in Bank and Office 947,900

1829. CHARTER PERPETUAL 1870. Franklin Fire Insurance Company OF PHILADELPHIA. Office, Nos. 435 and 437 CHESTNUT ST. Assets Aug. 1, '70 \$3,009,883'24

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