

Pre-Historic Remains Found.

It is generally known in this country, and in scientific circles in Europe, that the gigantic undertaking of bridging the Mississippi River at this point has been already begun, and that for more than a year, when the state of the river would permit, the sound of the ponderous machinery has ceased not day nor night, but the work of excavation has been going on until the solid rock has been reached for the foundation of the piers upon the western shore. One of the piers is already above low-water mark—a triumph of mechanics. The blocks of stone of which it is built are as large as those of the Pyramids, and yet, by the application of original principles of mechanical and engineering skill, these gigantic blocks are moved so easily as the common foundation stones of our dwellings. The outer pier is not yet begun, the excavations therefore not being quite completed. At this point the wonders begin, the end of which is not yet. What effect the discovery of this tunnel under the river may have upon the location of the bridge the board of engineers will soon determine. About 4 1/2 p. m., yesterday the workmen engaged in blasting the rocks in the bottom of the excavation for the foundation of this pier discharged an extraordinary large blast of powder, which, immediately after the report, a strange phenomenon presented itself. Instead of having the usual time for the smoke to clear away they saw it ascend rapidly in a column, as though issuing from the smokestack of one of our steamers. This column cleared, and it was found that a steady amount of air with a strange damp odor was issuing from the cavernous excavation, showing that an opening had been made into some unknown subterranean passage. Upon descending to the bottom the usual mud and water has disappeared through a dark, deep opening in the rock about ten feet in diameter, made by the last discharge of powder. It was, indeed, and torches were immediately procured and careful explorations begun. We cannot now enter into detailed description, but having been invited to accompany the board of engineers with a delegation from the Academy of Science and Historical Society, we must reserve a full exposition of the wonderful discovery until we shall have made a more careful survey. Suffice it for the present to say it is certain that it passes entirely under the river to the Illinois shore, and whether it is wholly the work of some ancient race who once inhabited this land, whose interesting remains are strown so thickly up and down this great valley, or whether it is partly natural and partly artificial, remains to be seen. In any case it is none the less stupendous. The main passage we should judge to be about twenty feet high by fifteen broad, and systematically arched overhead; part of the way by cutting through solid rock and part by substantial masonry. The bottom seemed to be much worn, as if by carriage wheels, and was very smooth. There were many lateral passages, which, of course, we had no time to enter. These were about eight feet high and six feet wide. In the main passage we saw no tools or implements of workmanship, but on entering one of the lateral passages we soon emerged into a large chamber supported by leaning pillars of solid rock when the chamber was excavated. Around the walls of this chamber there were what seemed to be closely fitted with closely-fitting slabs, each slab covered with inscriptions in Runic uniform characters, which to our eyes bore a marvellous resemblance to those upon the slab in the Mercantile Library, which was brought from the mines of Nineveh. Between the niches were projecting pilasters, with draped Assyrian or Egyptian heads, which presented as most impressive and awe-inspiring objects. They were illuminated by the torch-light—As these sweet, sad faces looked down upon us from the ancient ages, like the souls of the departed. One of the passages opening on the north side seemed to follow the course of the river, and it is believed extends to the great mound being built upon the known ground as Monk's Mound on the other side of the river, and is but one of a continuous chain of mounds extending from the river to the bluffs, a distance of nine miles. It is conjectured that the tunnel under the river and the mounds are intimately connected, and there was in ancient days an opening through the mounds from this subterranean highway. Of course every scientific man is in a fever of excitement at these grand discoveries which seem so full of promise to archaeological and ethnological inquiries after truth. It will be remembered by our citizens that some few months since an examination of Monk's Mound was made under the auspices of some Eastern scientific society; and during the excavations there were frequent exhalations of disagreeable gases and odors. Yet we will not speculate, but wait in almost breathless suspense, for future development. As we turned from this examination, passing through its pillared hall above mentioned, we observed a descending opening about seven feet high by three feet wide. Following this in its windings about fifty yards, we came to a flight of forty-one steps, ascending which, we found ourselves in another chamber of wonders—oval in shape, about seven feet long, twenty feet high, and three feet high. The walls of this last chamber were inscribed in magnificent basaltic and Runic inscriptions. Professor Baelio, the learned Sanscrit of the university, who was with us, has taken upon himself the task of transcribing the inscriptions. Of the meaning of some of the words and the colossal sculptures, he also speaks very confidently. One of the magnificent groups he is certain is intended to represent Ashaburner, crown of Queen Elizabeth. And another group of colossal figures representing captives following the car of a victorious conqueror are portraits of Luke, D. utronomy and the friend going into captivity. This remarkable discovery, following so quickly the one interest throughout the world. It is very desirable that the savans into whose hands the rich treasures of the Rock Island discovery has fallen will send representatives here, so that we can compare notes, for it is possible that both those wonders and those discovered here were the work of the same ancient people.—St. Louis Republican.

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RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF CAMBRIA COUNTY, DR. JOHN COX, TREASURER OF CAMBRIA COUNTY, CR.

Table showing receipts and expenditures for 1868 and 1869, including amounts for County Tax, Poor Tax, and various administrative costs.

Table titled 'Amount Due Cambria County' showing liabilities and assets, including outstanding orders and amounts due from judgments.

Table titled 'STATEMENT SHOWING LIABILITIES AND ASSETS OF THE COUNTY' detailing the county's financial position.

Table titled 'OUTSTANDING DEBTS DUE FROM COLLECTORS FOR THE YEAR 1868 AND PREVIOUS YEARS' listing debts owed by various individuals.

Table titled 'AMOUNT OF Road and School Taxes due the several Districts on Seated and Unseated Lands for 1867 and previous years' showing tax amounts for different districts.

Text block providing information about the undersigned auditors and the date of the report.

Advertisement for George W. Oatman, Treasurer, and the Directors of the Poor and House of Employment, Cambria Co.

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