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Indian Artifacts from Klamath Falls

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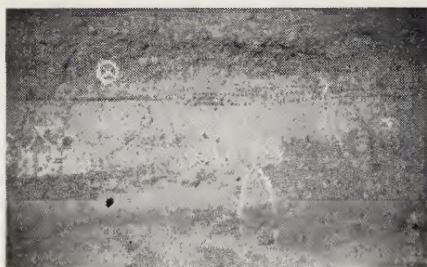
Abstract: This article argues that the existence of Indian artifacts help to form the conclusion that two separate cultures existed in ancient Northwestern America.

INDIAN ARTIFACTS

from Klamath Falls

By W. RUDGER THORNOCK

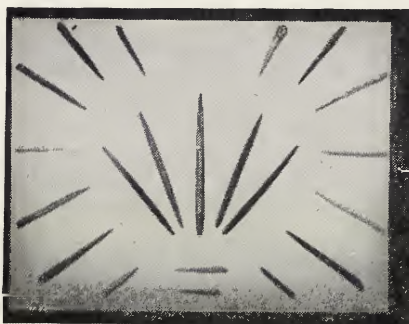
Northwestern States Mission



A FINE EXAMPLE OF THE PETROGLYPHS FOUND ON TULELAKE PENINSULA IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA UNKNOWN TO PRESENT INDIANS, AND ACCORDING TO THEM THESE WERE HERE WHEN THEIR ANCESTORS FIRST CAME HERE. NO ONE HAS AS YET BEEN ABLE TO INTERPRET THESE WRITINGS.

OUR interest in any evidence bearing upon the record of Ancient America led my missionary companion, Elder Donald D. Noel, and me to meet a man living in Klamath Falls, Oregon, who has made a lifetime hobby of collecting and studying Indian artifacts. The man, Mr. Frank A. Payne, has a very interesting collection numbering over 14,000 pieces. A great number of these he has catalogued and he has kept a record of where and how each was discovered, giving conditions surrounding the place of discovery. Mr. Payne very kindly and generously gave us of his time and the information which he has. We spent a number of interesting hours with him and learned much concerning his work.

Most of the relics were gathered from what was once an old lake, known as lower Klamath Lake, which has been drained and has since become a fertile field for Mr. Payne's work. Little digging has been done in this study of many years, but as the wind moved the powdery earth from the lake floor the relics were uncovered and a consistent record concerning these artifacts has been made available. At times a great number of relics were located in one small area and when such was the case Mr. Payne would use his shovel. He found one "Kitchen Midden" in which were the cremated remains of many people. Some were entirely cremated, others just partly so, and still others not touched by fire. This brought a question to the mind of our inquisitive friend and by study and from the old Indians here, he found that the extent of the cremation depended upon the station in life held by the deceased. If they were wealthy and



THIS SHOWS A GROUP OF BONE NEEDLES USED FOR PUNCTURING BUCKSKIN TO MAKE SEWING POSSIBLE. THE FIVE LARGE ONES IN THE CENTER ARE SUPPOSEDLY THOSE OF THE FORMER GROUP OF INHABITANTS AND SHOW MUCH SUPERIOR WORKMANSHIP TO THOSE OF A LATER DATE. INDIANS WHO LIVE HERE AT THE PRESENT TIME KNOW NOTHING OF THESE WHILE THEY RECOGNIZE THE OTHERS READILY.

had means to pay to have wood hauled for burning the body, they were entirely cremated; if middle class, they were partly so honored, and if poverty-stricken, they were not touched by fire.

Mr. Payne's work has caused interest among men who are eminent in the field of anthropology. Many tools and weapons, together with human and animal artifacts, some of which have become petrified, have been gathered for study in labor-

atories and work rooms. All evidence points to the fact that the Indians of the eastern Oregon country were witnesses to the destruction of Mt. Mazama, in place of which now is found Crater Lake.

A word concerning this great wonder, Crater Lake, which Dr. Cressman, head of the Anthropology Department, University of Oregon, estimates was formed between four thousand and ten thousand years ago and presumably at a time nearly four thousand. Where Crater Lake now is, once stood a great mountain peak which was built up by volcanic eruptions from time to time, until the mountain had reached a height of between twelve thousand and fourteen thousand feet. Then came the greatest movement of this huge volcano, at which time liquid stone was thrown over miles of the surrounding country and covered everything in its path. The shell of the mountain collapsed and partly filled in the great hollow left when the lava belched forth, forming the basin for what is today one of the most beautiful and purest bodies of water in the world.

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"KITCHEN MIDDEN" OR CREMATORY BEING EXCAVATED BY MR. FRANK PAYNE.



Orrin Porter Rockwell

panied us happy and content, without the remotest thought of any advantage to himself, proud of being able to give us this proof of his sincere regards."²

Whatever extremes Porter's weaknesses may have reached for Valley Tan [whiskey], he maintained respect and consideration for his Church and its leaders. In their presence Porter was ever at his best, both in appearance and manners. Gottfredson relates such an experience in the following account:

"... While I was conversing with the President, Orrin Porter Rockwell called and gave President Young an account of the affair with the Indians at Pleasant Grove. I listened very attentively to his recital of the matter. . .

"O. Porter Rockwell while at Pleasant Grove was taken to be slightly intoxicated. He was active in moving among the crowd at the soldiers' camp; this all seems very distinct even now; I thought him almost silly with drink and had little respect for him until this interview with President Young. On that occasion he was well dressed in a black broadcloth suit, wore neatly polished shoes and a black silk hat; his language was free and grammatical. I concluded that Rockwell lived a double life in the interest of his friends and God's cause on earth. I will ever remember him with esteem."³

(To be Concluded)

²Jules Remy & Julius Brenchly, *A Journey to Great Salt Lake City*, Vol. 2, pp. 314-315. London, W. Jeffs, 1861.

³Peter Gottfredson, *History of Indian Depredations in Utah*, p. 118, Salt Lake City, Utah. Skelton Publishing Co., 1919.

Indian Artifacts

(Concluded from page 216)

MR. PAYNE was impressed by the difference in relics found on the old lake shore line and those farther out in the lake. It strongly suggested that there were two distinct periods of occupation, one of great antiquity. Also, there are two types of symbolic Indian writings found in this area which indicate the presence of ancient peoples who have long since vanished from this region. One type consists of paintings (pictographs) in red, yellow, and green ochre found on the walls of caves. The other type consists of carvings (petroglyphs) which are confined to rocky bluffs in a place called Tule-lake Peninsula. These writings cannot be read today by the Indians whose ancestors were successors to the authors of the writings.

It is most reasonable from the evidence that there were at least two separate peoples upon this continent, one of which was much more ancient than the other.



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