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BULLETIN OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

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Douglas S. Byers, Editor

Published at the Robert S. Peabody
Foundation for Archaeology, Andover, Mass.
ONE year old! It was only a year ago that the first faint cries of the infant Society were heard. Since that time we have grown from the group of twenty-eight members who signed the constitution to a total of seventy-six; nearly two new members for each founding member. Many of us have worked on some aspect of the Society's activities, but there is still a tendency on the part of a great many of us to "let George do it". If you look over the membership list, you will find that we haven't a single member named George; and there are equally few people who have a desire to do "George's" work.

It is well known that in unity there is strength, but it is equally well known that an organization run by a small group of individuals is weak. Though too many cooks may not turn out a good chowder, there can't be too many cooks heating things up for the Society. Perhaps it is not inappropriate to turn back to the words of wisdom uttered by our President a year ago.

"In this type of organization, with its members scattered over a wide area, holding semi-annual meetings, and dependent upon the printed word for all contact between sessions, the responsibility of the individual members is great. Your officers will plan and with your help carry out the program of the Society; ... but upon YOU as individuals depends the success of the Society."

He alluded to our provisions for local Chapters as a means of increasing immediate interest and concluded with these words, which seem most appropriate at this time:

"It is most important that we keep in mind the concept of a local chapter as a group of members of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society, meeting together for the purpose of carrying out the objects of the Society locally; and that we consider the Society as one large unit divided into subordinate units for convenience in meeting. The moment we allow these groups to assume the character of separate organizations, burdened with local dues, initiating programs of a local nature, we destroy the parent group."
Requests for information have gone out from the Survey Committee, and a separate questionnaire has gone out from the Historical Survey. In cooperating with the chairmen by furnishing information you are helping the Society to attain its ends. We cannot all be squirrels, with our pet sites, or treasured books hidden under a particular leaf where we can go when no one else is looking and gloat over our hoard; in that way scientific endeavor dies. The books that "every body knows about because I've read them since I was a boy" are often unknown to the majority of us. They mean more to the Society at large than that wonderful pipe that you found "with a certain party on a place I've dug for years".

Instead of spending all our time wondering what this rope or that gadget may be for, why not all put our hands to the ropes and get the sails and anchor up and try to get somewhere. No one or two members can do all the work to take us on a cruise.

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The Executive Committee met at Ned Brooks' house on March 16th, with all members present except for the Editor. The several Committee Chairmen made their reports, all of them showing progress. As some of the Committee reports appear in another section of this Bulletin they are not covered here. The Bibliography Committee reports 125 titles listed to date; don't stop sending them in, there are lots more. Ned reports sixteen new members since the October meeting.

Dr. Henry Howe has worked out the questionnaire that you have all received under separate cover. It is intended to supply information sorely needed for purposes of historical research. Let's all fill ours in at once, or supply the answers on separate sheets of paper and send them in.

There was discussion of the proposed amendments to the Constitution, which you all have by this time, and they were accepted for presentation at the Attleboro meeting where they will be acted on. Another item that was discussed was the purchase of a level-
transit by the Society; although it was voted to present the subject for action at Attleboro, there were many people who were not heartily in favor of the purchase.

Don't forget that you will have a chance to vote on everything at the Attleboro meeting; so come early and speak your piece.

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FROM OUR CONTEMPORARIES

The following article from the pen of Dr. Arthur C. Parker appeared in "Museum Service" for March and April, 1939. While it was inspired by certain ill considered relief projects, there is much in it to cause us to pause and think. There are few people, few institutions, that have not offended in the way that has aroused Dr. Parker - the "expedition" that sets out to catch the biggest elephant, sailfish, grasshopper, or flea "for the Museum" is still offending in the same way.

*Making Mockery of Archaeology*

"How often are the fringes of science sullied by the barn yard trackings of ill-matched feet! Archaeology is a good example of a humanistic science that has been smeared by fakery. This is largely due to the failure of the public to know what the true objectives of archaeology are.

"That the collector who owns a large number of "Indian relics" and who had dug up Indian graves is "an American archaeologist" is a common idea. The fact that a real archaeologist may not be interested in merely "collecting" is practically unknown to the newspapers.

"The true archaeologist who outlines his problems and then seeks to solve it by scientific methods may be a rather unspectacular fellow. However, his patient determinations, based upon careful analysis, painfully checked deductions and numerous tabulations and comparisons, are the only true measure of progress in this science. Once published,
the findings of the archaeologist are seized upon by those who may discover them and warped to fit the purposes of numerous fakers who appropriate them as their own and talk learnedly, as if in their own right.

"The desire of the collector, not imbued with the drive that motivates the scientist, is to gather together all that he can. There are even large museums filled with material thus gathered, and believed by many to be "scientific." Without adequate notes, without any attempt to work out stratigraphy or to make careful analyses, these museums classify material by states, counties or other geographical areas, never once seeking to determine the characteristics of each component or of the general food. Sometimes similar objects are classified and separated from the associated artifacts, no attempt being made to work out the diagnostic traits and keep them together. However, no scientific museum, no true amateur, no enlightened collector and certainly no real archaeologist thus violates the objectives of archaeology.

"But if we look about us we shall see "archaeological projects" administered by state agencies that are literally ripping the archaeological evidences of their aboriginal occupations from the ground, and merely reporting the thousands of "specimens" found, or planting these significant artifacts, (as if they were mere trophies) in permanent storage or in the custody of local societies where to archaeology they will be lost. No more shocking thing has ever been done in the name of science to justify a "relief situation." The responsible agents of this form of vandalism may be getting away with their destruction for a few months, but sober science will not fail, later to evaluate this work in properly descriptive words.

"Pandering to "yellow journalistic" measures, some of these vandalistic projects get much publicity; but they issue very few, if any, scientific publications that pass even an amateur reviewer. Some are so shocking that the scientific press represses its olfactory perceptions and turns its head.
"Much better is it to let the story of ancient man lie sleeping until the wisdom of the future is awakened and competent archaeologists can do the work - for science not 'falsely so-called.' - A.J.P."

REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES

One year ago the Society voted, as its first project, to make a survey of the Indian sites in Massachusetts. The Survey Committee feels that in the short time that has passed, an excellent start has been made. Five hundred and fifty sites are at present on the Society's records.

However, there are many areas that have not been covered, and it is hoped that the members will continue their assistance to complete the job. To have at least a sprinkling of sites to cover the entire state we are in need of information about the areas around North Adams, Greenfield, Athol, Winchendon, Fitchburg, Boston, the North Shore to Rockport, Pittsfield and the Westfield River, Amherst, Great Barrington, the Chicopee River, Plymouth, and the Cape.

Who will help out and fill in these gaps? When it is done we will have some idea of aboriginal settlements. Will you help by filling in a gap?

Information about the survey was sent out in our first BULLETIN. If new members who have not received this number will send a post card to Ripley P. Bullen, Chairman, 39 Forest Street, Worcester, Mass., he will be very glad to send site cards and instructions.

By means of this survey we are hoping to define the archaeological problems in our state. By means of the artifact lists on the back of the cards we hope to make up some hypothesis regarding the prehistoric cultures to be checked later in working out the relative chronology of the cultures. As a guide to future work we are anxious to push through our first project so that we can proceed
in a scientific manner in studying the prehistory of our state.

The committee is therefore appealing to all members for cooperation in helping with the survey.

Respectfully submitted
Ripley P. Bullen
Chairman

The Project Committee has been relatively inactive since the Holyoke Meeting, but, as the various committees now at work become more active, it should be of considerable assistance in co-ordinating their several lines of endeavor.

Mr. Ripley Bullen, a member of the Committee, has suggested a dig on the mainland for the coming year, but it was felt that the Society should carry out but one sponsored dig at a time, and that, for this year, the dig at Nantucket should be continued. It is hoped that next year the dig to be sponsored by the Society, if any, will be upon the mainland, where it would be more readily accessible to the membership in general. Therefore, it is recommended that the only Society-sponsored dig for the year 1940 be, as last year, at Nantucket, under the direction of Mr. Brooks, but that this sponsorship be terminated at the end of the 1940 season. Field work by the Society is so new that to lay down a long term program this spring seems unwise. A season of field work by the newly formed groups should give us a clearer perspective.

Miss Mary Lee forwarded a letter from Miss Mabel Choate, in which Miss Choate, on becoming a member, asked that the Society investigate an Indian Council Ring on the shore of Pontoosuc Lake in the Tappan Forest in Lenox, Mass. She reported that it is gradually being destroyed, and felt that it should be preserved.

We also heard of the ring from Mr. Clay Perry of Pontoosuc Lake Associates, of Pittsfield, Mass., who kindly sent us clippings and photographs of the ring. Mr. Byers made plans to meet Mr. Perry last
fall at Pittsfield, to inspect the ring and make recommendations regarding it, but was unfortunately prevented at the last moment by family illness.

The onset of winter brought all action in the matter to a standstill, and the inspection and report cannot be made until well into the spring. The matter will be given our attention at the earliest possible moment, and recommendations will be made to Mr. Torrey’s Conservation Committee for action by the Society.

The Project Committee urges that the greatest co-operation be given the chairmen of the various committees such as Bibliography (Mr. Brown), Historical Research (Dr. Howe), Site Survey (Mr. Bullen). All of the committees have embarked on important projects which, with your interest and help, can produce exceedingly valuable results. They are all closely related and we feel that the members should exert themselves to the utmost to supply these committees with the information they request. You will hear from all of the chairmen from time to time.

The Project Committee, having labored diligently on the set-up of the new committees, observes with satisfaction the zest with which most of them have swung into action. The Committee stands ready to assist in every possible way the development of new methods of attack on our various problems and the co-ordination of the results obtained. We solicit your suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,
Benjamin L. Smith,
Chairman

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NEWS OF THE CHAPTERS

Lee Hallett has worked like a dog in getting the state divided up among districts in which local chapters can be organized. He has not only been the driving force in this work, but he has also gathered news concerning the doings of the various chapters. It is encouraging to see what he has done.
Connecticut Valley District.

On February 28th, William S. Fowler of Holyoke accepted the Chairmanship of this District. Plans are now being laid for an original meeting of this group in the very near future.

Central District.

The first meeting of the Central District was held on Saturday, February 24th, at the Worcester Historical Society, Salisbury Street, Worcester.

C.C. Ferguson, District Chairman, opened the meeting with an address of welcome and introduced President Coombs of the Worcester Historical Society, who welcomed the members of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society to Worcester. The next speaker, Capt. Cross of the W.H.S. spoke briefly on the material in the Historical Building. Maurice Robbins gave a talk on the purposes of the Society, and was followed by Lee Hallett, who explained the development of the District groups. J.E. Barns of Milford read a paper on the site at Mendon and showed artifacts from that site. C.C. Lyford spoke briefly and showed a few specimens from his collection. He was followed by William S. Fowler of Holyoke who demonstrated a method of hafting stone artifacts. Ben Smith of Concord commented on the formation of groups. Earl Dodge of Worcester showed some of his specimens which included a steel arrow point. Next Mr. White, Treasurer of the Town of Milford, spoke briefly, Harry Cheney of Hopkinton showed some unusual specimens and L.E. Gahan of the local group gave a resume of the local Indian history and the pronunciation of Indian place names. Jesse Brewer of Plymouth was introduced and Ned Brooks gave a short talk on membership. Ripley Bullen brought the meeting to a close with an illustrated talk on the soapstone quarry in Milford.

In spite of poor traveling conditions, it was gratifying to have so many members of the Society present to aid in this first meeting. Several came from long distances and their interest was greatly appreciated. The meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

The second meeting of the Central District has been tentatively set for March 30th.
Southern District.

On January 13th the second meeting of the Southern Group was held at the Brown Farm in Seekonk with seven members and sixteen guests present. Lee Hallett presided at the business meeting following the supper and called on Roger Wilson who gave an interesting talk on the general characteristics of the Norton dig, mentioning the Indian trails and showing a survey map of the area. Sheldon Smith reported on the chemical analysis of the pit uncovered which proved to be of great interest. Walter Franke spoke on rock shelters that he had excavated and showed a splendid assortment of specimens taken from them. Lee Hallett then introduced Jesse Brewer who, accompanied by three friends, came from Plymouth to be our special guest of the evening. He talked about his experiences as a relic hunter in a most entertaining way and told of his uncovering a red paint burial. During his talk he exhibited many artifacts and a notebook showing pictures of the fine Indian pot found at the time of the widening of the Cape Cod Canal.

Edward Brooks, Secretary of the Society, spoke of the work done at Nantucket last summer and urged the members to come down to the Island this summer and help with this project.

The third meeting of the Southern Group took place on February 10th at the Brown Farm in Seekonk with fifteen members and five guests present. After supper Lee Hallett, Chairman, called the meeting to order and introduced John Rowe. Mr. Rowe is a member of the Society now doing graduate work in archaeology at Harvard University. He spoke in an informal way of his work at Blue Hill, Maine on the Richards shell heap. This talk brought forth interesting comments from those present and led to an evening of friendly discussion. Mrs. Florence Boltz of Mansfield displayed fossils and minerals collected during her stay in Texas, which added to the interest of the meeting. After a brief outline by Maurice Robbins of the semi-annual meeting to be held in April in Attleboro, the meeting adjourned until March 23rd.

Plans have been completed for the March 23rd meeting to include comments by Fred Johnson of Andover and an illustrated talk by Clarence Greene of North Attleboro who has just returned from a six months trip to Mexico. He will speak on the Aztecs and show over a hundred slides taken on his trip.
Northern District.

The first meeting of the Northern District was held on March 14th at Andover. Howard Torrey, Ben Smith, Forbes Rockwell, Fred Johnson, W.B. Ordway, Arthur Hoffman, Ned Brooks and Doug Byers were present. Methods of analyzing collections and attempting to define archaeological problems were discussed.

Plymouth District.

The first meeting of the Plymouth District was held on Sunday evening, February 11th at the home of Jesse Brewer, District Chairman. Fourteen persons were present from this District, and there were four guests from the Southern District including our President, Maurice Robbins, who gave a talk on the objects of the Society. Considerable time was spent in informal discussion and in looking over the fine collections of Jesse Brewer and others from the District. At the end of a pleasant and profitable evening a date was set for a second meeting at the home of Mr. Sherman.

The second meeting of this District was held at the home of Mr. Sherman of Plymouth on March 3rd. There were twenty persons present to enjoy a talk on the Nantucket dig given by Ned Brooks and comments on the Fish Weir by Dr. Howe of Cohasset, who is a member of the group. The meeting was called to order by Jesse Brewer at 8:00 P.M. and adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Cape Cod District.

On March 5th, Ezra C.H. Hartford of Fournedale accepted the Chairmanship of this new District. As yet no time has been set for the first meeting of this group, but it is expected that the date and place will be announced soon.

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Commenting in general, very marked progress has been made in developing the District idea. It has been found that the wives and invited guests have fully as enjoyable a time at these social gatherings as the men members. You will note from the above resume of District activities that in the
Southern District there were seven members and eleven guests at their original meeting. At the second meeting the ratio was seven members and sixteen guests, whereas at the third meeting there were fifteen members and five guests. This is a good example of how these gatherings add desirable members as the group develops. That has been done in this particular District can be duplicated everywhere, and undoubtedly will be under the able District leaders who are working toward the success of this idea.

L.F. Hallett

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A STATEMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION AND AIMS OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

The Eastern States Archaeological Federation traces its inception to the recognition of the need for a plan of interstate cooperation in the field of archaeological research. In 1933 members of four state societies (Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania) met for the purpose of discussing this problem and, being impressed by the advantages to scientific advancement, agreed to provide for a continuation of such meetings under the name of the Northeastern States Conference of Archaeological Societies. At the meeting held in Philadelphia in February, 1934, the reports of the several societies clearly and impressively indicated not only an enthusiastic response from existing societies but a desire on the part of groups of individuals in other states to organize their archaeological activities and to participate in future conferences. The cohesion of interest among the archaeologists of the eastern states was a self-evident force which found natural expression in the creation at that time of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation, the constitution of which was adopted a year later on February 23, 1935 at the meeting in Rochester, New York. From the seven state societies (Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania) which first constituted the Federation, the organization has grown by the addition of societies
representing Georgia, Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Maine, and in 1939 the total individual membership numbered approximately 1500 interested supporters of archaeology.

One of the first aims of the Federation was to encourage the establishment of state archaeological societies. The result has been astonishingly successful so that today we can look forward to fulfillment of this purpose. The third article of the constitution declares that "the membership of this Federation shall be limited to the organized state archaeological societies of the eastern states." On the basis of natural geographic considerations and the practical limitations of meeting together, as well as the continuity of the sphere of our research, it has been the general consensus of opinion that the "eastern states" shall be construed to include those which have an Atlantic watershed. Accepting this view means that we have twelve states represented of a possible seventeen, and that we shall logically seek to promulgate the formation and federation of societies in the States of Florida, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. At the present time we have reason to anticipate response from at least two of the unre-presented states (South Carolina and Virginia) and are anxious to direct helpful support to any efforts which may be made in the others.

The aim of "interstate cooperation in the field of archaeological research" which appears in article two of the constitution is being met in a number of different ways. The annual meeting in the autumn of each year is bringing together an increasing number of the members from the several states who find the opportunity a profitable one for presenting papers on the archaeological research recently undertaken in the east and for personally sharing ideas and criticism which might not otherwise be disseminated. The natural cohesion of interest within the limited area of the Atlantic seaboard results in a stimulus which might well be the envy of organizations of less concentrated scope. The exhibits committee, concentrating on first one aspect of archaeology and then another, is bringing about a visual realization of the range of similarities and differences in the artifacts to be found in the eastern United States. The desirability of such activities need only to be stated to gain appreciation.
In the fields of publication, research, and public education the Federation has also an outlet for its ideals. In this direction it would seem logical that the Federation should first direct its efforts through coordination to further such activities among its several constituent societies. An example can be cited in the case of the editorial committee, which is stimulating the development and exchange of the several kinds of publications which state societies have proved most profitable.

Some projects the Federation seems particularly fitted by the nature of its constitution to carry through itself. Objectives which extend beyond the province of any one state present a need which the Federation must meet. An excellent illustration is the collaborative bibliography of the archaeology of the eastern United States, which promises to satisfy the desire for a reference to the source materials on the whole area with specific categories indicating archaeological and political districts as well as several aspects of approach. Another project which is being furthered is a definitive list of the accessible repositories of archaeological material in the eastern states. The Steering Committee wishes to increase such projects and seeks for suggestions. Response will be most welcome and may be sent directly to the President of the Federation.

Cornelius Osgood, President
A REPORT ON A FRESH WATER SHELL HEAP AT CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS

by

BENJAMIN L. SMITH

Inland, fresh-water shell heaps are not common in New England, in fact, so infrequent is their occurrence that the writer is not aware of the existence of any paper describing one in detail, which condition would hardly obtain had archaeologists come across them more often.

There is, however, a small Unio shell heap in Concord which has often been visited, and frequently mentioned in various papers; but no one has left us a detailed report of its appearance, size, or contents.

The writer has spent a great deal of time in careful digging among the decayed, charcoal-stained shells, and as he has done similar work in the salt water heaps, principally at Castine, Sedgwick and Brooklin, Maine, and has observed certain interesting dissimilarities between the two types, it has occurred to him that there should be room for a somewhat more complete report than now exists.

Mr. Lemuel Shattuck in his "A History of the Town of Concord", writing in 1835, of the year 1636, states on page 3 that "South of Mr. Samuel Dennis's are now seen large quantities of Clamshells, which are supposed to have been collected by the Indians as they feasted on that then much frequented spot."

Thoreau, in his Journal, and other writings, mentions this deposit, but contrary to his usual habit, refrains from describing it in detail. That the spot was a favorite of his, is established by his many references to "Clamshell Hill", or more often simply "Clamshell", and by his many accounts of the Indian relics he found there. Certain important observations set down by Thoreau will be recorded later.

Mr. Adams Tolman, in a paper entitled, "Indian Relics in Concord" read before the Concord Antiquarian Society in the spring of 1902, wrote as
follows:— "The shell heap or "clam hill", as it is locally termed ... is an interesting object, as it is one of a class of the remains of primitive man that are found very widely diffused along the sea shore and the banks of considerable rivers, not only in America, but in Europe as well, and to which archaeologists have given the name of kitchen middens. It is situated on the left bank of the river (South Branch, or Sudbury) a little distance above the F. R. R. bridge, just where the river makes a sharp turn. The bluff is perhaps fifteen feet high, and the heap contains [or did contain, the shells having been carried away as dressing for the land] hundreds of bushels of shells of the river mussel (Unio). Among them have been found bones of the smaller wild animals, including deer, and of the game birds common in this part of the country, together with fragments of stone implements, and the like. Evidently here was an aboriginal feasting ground ... where the savage picnickers used to resort for clam bakes. It gives one a good idea of the appetite and digestive powers of the hardy sons of the forest, to find this visible witness that they could and did eat and relish the river mussel, -- the most utterly uninviting and nauseous of any of the living products of our river."

Dr. Warren K. Moorehead, in his report on the Merrimac River Archaeological Survey published in 1931, gives Tolman's reference among others, and further states on page 27 that: "In view of the previous description of the heap, we [he and other members of the Survey] entered upon our examination with considerable zest. It is quite unusual in New England to find a deposit composed of fresh water shells. Although a great deal of material had been hauled away to fertilize the fields, the heap was found to be two feet deep in certain places. It originally covered about half an acre. Today the extent is considerably less. Bottom-layer shells were very badly decayed: there was considerable ash, many chips and rejects, a few animal bones, and very few projectile points. Apparently some hundreds of perfect points were found from time to time during farming operations, and are in Concord collections,
where they may be studied." (see NOTE\# below)

May the writer observe at this point that Dr. Moorehead's practice, while conducting this Survey was, in certain localities, to leave much work to be done in the future by local observers whenever in his opinion they appeared competent. He kindly allowed the writer to assume much of the responsibility for the Concord district, and therefore the Survey dug but little of this shell heap.

In his "Antiquities of the New England Indians" on page 213, Mr. Charles C. Willoughby observes that: "Fresh water Unio mussels or clams were sometimes gathered for food by our Indians, but their use was not extensive. Jeffries Wyman calls attention to a Unio shell heap near Concord, Massachusetts. (See FOOTNOTE) This heap was visited by the late Orio Bates, and the following reference is taken from his Manuscript (thesis) in the Peabody Museum Library.

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† NOTE: These points probably did not come from the Shell Heap, but from the near-by village site, which is much more extensive. (B.L.S.)

* FOOTNOTE: Hoping that Dr. Wyman had been more explicit in his original allusions to this deposit, we looked up the reference given in Bates's Manuscript. In the Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History, Vol. XI, page 243, we found the following in the report of a meeting on May 15th, 1887.

"Mr. Horace Mann stated (to the meeting) that in Concord on the Concord River, there was a bluff fifteen feet high, filled with shells of mussels (Unionidae), in which split bones and the upper arm of the beaver, together with considerable pottery and the arrow heads had been found by Mr. Thoreau."

Dr. Wyman had just finished some observations on shell heaps in another district when Mr. Mann rose to speak. The writer assumes that the statement in Mr. Bates's manuscript-- that Dr. Wyman gave a "slight account" of the deposit-- was perhaps due to a too hasty examination of the Natural History Society report. Mr. Willoughby's statement that "Jefferies
The writer was kindly given access to a copy of this manuscript in the Library of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology at Phillips Academy, Andover, and the complete reference is as follows:— "Dr. Abbott mentions an extensive shell heap described by Professor Wyman (see FOOTNOTE) as being on the Concord River. Being anxious to see one of the middens I went out to Concord ... and after paddling two miles up the river, found the spot. At a sharp bend in the river on the north side rises a little plateau, some 25 feet high. A half hour's scratching about revealed a meagre deposit of shells (Unio Complanatus and Unio Varidis) in which were found an arrow point, the butt of a knife and a few chippings. The 'extensive' shell deposit, whatever it may have been, is today about 8" deep. Dr. Wyman gives a slight account of it. Proceed, Boston Soc. Nat. Hist. Vol.XI, page 243. (see FOOTNOTE) Thoreau dug in this heap, 'Shell

FOOTNOTE (cont.) Wyman calls attention to a Unio Shell Heap near Concord ... "as undoubtedly based also on Bates's report.

We have failed to find any reference by either Dr. Wyman or Dr. Abbott to this deposit. If such reports exist, the writer would appreciate having them called to his attention.

Mr. Mann's statement that "considerable pottery" had been found by Mr. Thoreau in the shell heap called for further investigation.

Mr. Willoughby and the writer went through the Thoreau Collection in the Peabody Museum, and found that while the collection contains three (3) fragments of soapstone dishes, there is not a single fragment of clay pottery in the lot. In the light of subsequent examinations, we doubt the accuracy of Mann's "considerable pottery" statement, although in fairness, it must be admitted that the fact that NO pottery was turned over to Peabody with Thoreau's collection is not proof that Thoreau found none in the deposit.
Bank, as the Concord people call it, and found, I was told by an old villager who had dug with him, some arrow heads and one or two plummets. In passing, I would say that the Unio complanatus, while nutritious, is most unpalatable. According to Kalen they were prepared for eating by roasting."

"Shell Heap Field", or perhaps better "Clamshell Bluff", was at one time the best known Indian site in Concord, and for many years has produced an appreciable number of relics each time it was plowed. The shell heap is located on the south edge of this 50 acre field, which ends on the high north bank of the Sudbury River, one half mile above the B.&M. Railroad bridge. The river at this spot makes a 90 degree bend from a northerly to an easterly direction.

The water is about 20 feet below the site and the gravelly bank, in the top of which the shell heap lies, slopes off at about a 30 degree angle to a muddy, overgrown beach some 30 feet wide. At one spot there is a small stretch of gravel beach, back of which some years ago was a fine spring. The beach is now overgrown with a heavy stand of willow trees and brush, and the former existence of the spring is not generally known. We failed to locate it on our last attempt, but found where a new one had been dug close to the water's edge.

Just how large this shell heap was is now problematical. We have been told that many of the shells were dug out and used as dressing on the adjoining fields, as Mr. Tolman also stated. This is probably true, for in our searches in the neighboring fields we have often observed portions of shells on the freshly plowed surfaces.

We believe the heap was somewhat larger originally, and that some of the many relics found in the large field north of the shell heap may have been scattered with the shells, but in all fairness it must be recorded here that never have we found on the plowed surface a relic which has the burned patina possessed by those actually taken from the heap.

There is no doubt whatever in our mind that a large village was located in this same field, and
that much of the material found on it came from the debris scattered by the Indians encamped there, and never came from the shell heap at all, although the same Indians were probably responsible for both.

The shape of the deposit was apparently roughly semi-circular as regards its plan, with the south face straight and practically parallel with the river. What its cross section was, will probably never now be known. Shattuck says large quantities of shells were to be seen there. Does this mean "the hundreds of bushels" which Tolman says were carried away, -- were exposed on the surface? Or were there several bushels washed out of the exposed edge, lying on the sloping bank? Again, if Tolman's "hundreds" of bushels were "carried away", were they obtained from a raised heap on the surface, or did they come from a deposit thrown over the edge of the bank in the form of a talus slope?

These questions are ones which should be answered if we are to gain an accurate picture of the deposit, but no commentator has left us information which sheds light on these questions, and it is feared that they cannot now be answered.

The sloping south face of the bank shows exposed gravel over some of its surface, and many small fragments of shells are scattered about. Occasionally an arrowhead is picked up but this is becoming an infrequent occurrence. These articles were probably washed out of the exposed edge of the shell heap near the top of the bank. Erosion has now cut the bank back to the point where grass can take root on the slope, so that little of the deposit remains exposed. In a few years more, it should be entirely concealed.

A glance at the map will disclose the fact that the south face of the field has been cut by two deep indentations which seemed too sharp and regular to be natural land contours. The writer was much puzzled by these indentations and finally came to the conclusion that if shells had been dug out some of the gravel might well have been removed also. This was as far as it seemed safe to go. As previously stated, Thoreau (that usually meticulous observer of Concord minutiae) failed to describe the appearance of the shell heap, but he did write a complete answer to this
question. In his Journal for 1855 appears the following: Vol.7, page 218. "I observed how a new ravine is formed in a sand hill. A new one was formed in the last thaw at Clamshell Hill, thus: Much melted snow and rain being collected on the top of the hill, some apparently found its way through the ground, frozen a foot thick, a few feet from the edge of the bank, and began with a small rill washing down the slope the unfrozen sand beneath. As the water continued to slide into it and be carried off, leaving the frozen crust above quite firm, making a bridge five or six feet wide over this cavern. Now since the thaw, this bridge ... has melted and fallen in, leaving a ravine some ten feet wide and much longer which now may go on increasing from year to year without limit."

Thoreau's Journal, 1857, Vol.9, page 469. "That new ravine at Clamshell is so enlarged, the swallows already use its sides ..."


This of course is the explanation of the indentations, which have now stopped growing and are heavily grassed over. The gravel washed from the indentations was deposited on the river bank which accounts for the beach just below the "ravine", and lastly the spring has now dried up because the new By-pass Highway has cut the vein and it no longer runs in its old course.

There is no doubt that the easterly face of the westernmost indentation encroached on the shell heap, part of which was washed away with the gravel. The easterly indentation cut almost into the center of the deposit, and when the sod is removed, crumbling shells and black earth can be seen along both top edges. Presumably the gravel slope below these ravines contains scattered relics and shells, but they are too greatly churned up to make a costly examination of any practical value.

In order to determine the extent of the shell heap, we sank test pits and found the length to be about 90 feet, and the width about 60 feet, with chips, bones, artifacts, and greatly decayed shells
scattered unevenly throughout. In some areas, the bottom of the stratum was 21 inches below the surface, and the deposit was 15 inches thick. In others the stratum was five inches deep and one inch thick.

When the new Concord By-pass was constructed, a steam shovel was used to cut a path from the river's edge through the bank. As it worked to the west, it exposed on the northern edge of the cut and the extreme eastern edge of the field, a second small deposit of shells. This contained only a few fragments of bone and two arrow points. We doubt if the site contained more than two bushels of shells originally.

More interesting finds came to light, however, when the shovel cut into three or more deep fire pits 50 feet or so to the west. All of these pits contained ash and blackened earth with some charcoal, but only one, the deepest and largest, contained relics. The removed from this pit, at a depth of 40 inches a rough chipped gouge, a pecked and polished gouge with a somewhat damaged edge, a chipped knife and a broken spear head. There was nothing else to be found except some burned fireplace stones. The whole deposit was about the size and shape of a bushel basket, and was lying in clean, yellow sand, with the top at least one foot under the sod.

Because fresh water shell heaps are almost unique in this locality, the writer searched in existing collections for some of the material which he supposed would have been taken from the heap by earlier collectors, but met with absolutely no success. He therefore determined to excavate carefully as much of the heap as seemed to be untouched, and to preserve every foreign fragment, except the shells themselves, which came to light. He recovered many ridiculously small fragments of bone which are of little real value, but which were saved regardless. Many of the bones were so decayed that they fell to pieces at the touch of the tiny excavating tool used when material came in sight; others were sound and in good condition.

Here and there throughout the deposit, groups of stones were found arranged roughly as fireplaces, and many fragments of badly burned, crumbling stone were removed. At least four such fireplaces were
noted, one of which contained carbonized bark scales. The fire pits did not seem to contain remains differing greatly from the other areas.

Throughout the heap were found chips of porphyry and quartz burned beyond recognition. Some of the quartz retained its black patina even after a harsh scrubbing with a brush. There must have been many open fires built on this site, as there was far too great a burned area to have been caused by the four paved hearths removed.

Several curious facts were noted. The heap was littered from one end to the other with fragments of turtle shells, all of them badly broken and many of them spongy with decay. We removed over 500 fragments, large and small. Also of interest, was the fact that in spite of the most careful kind of digging, only three fragments of clay pottery was found, the largest of which is half an inch long and three-eighths of an inch wide. The others were even smaller, and they were apparently from three separate pots, as they resemble each other only in that they are tempered with sand.

A complete list of the finds follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Porphyry chips</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartz chips</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red jasper chips</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slate chips</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>277</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone fragments</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaw fragments with teeth</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teeth free from jaw</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porcupine tooth chisel</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiny curved rodent's tooth</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>289</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fragments of turtle shell</td>
<td>571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of clay pipe-stem(modern)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharpened bone tool</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone points complete</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone points broken</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beach stone hammer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chipped stone hammer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grooved maul stone</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pierced pendant</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartz arrow heads</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porphyry arrow heads</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porphyry spear head</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pottery fragments</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>34</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
While probably not belonging to this shell heap, we are listing the contents of the fire pit reported above:

- Porphyry chips: 20
- Quartz chips: 1
- Bone fragments, very small: 2
- Rough chipped gouge: 1
- Polished gouge: 1
- Chipped knife: 1
- Broken spear head: 1

Total: 27

We have now presented a fairly accurate picture of at least this fresh water shell heap, and while the totals of the artifacts found by us give us certain indications of numerical occurrence, they cannot be said to represent any definite proportion of the number deposited. While we do not believe we have missed many specimens in the area we dug over, we did not dig out more than half of the deposit, as much of it had been disturbed by Bates, Thoreau, Tolman and others; but we believe the area we excavated was sufficient to give a reasonably accurate indication of the contents of the heap, as it was probably the best, and certainly the deepest part of the whole deposit.

The writer in 1936 excavated a small part of a large salt water shell heap at Brooklin, Maine, and as the areas excavated in Concord and Brooklin were approximately the same, and because some interesting facts were apparent, we are listing below the following articles which were recovered:

- Felsite chips: 507
- Quartz chips: 4
- Red jasper chips: 2
- Blue quartzite chips: 1

Total: 514

- Bone fragments: 69
- Jaw fragments with teeth: 1
- Teeth free from jaw: 3
- Beaver tooth chisel: 1

Total: 74

Note: The totals may not add up due to rounding or categorization.
A cursory examination of these two tables will at once disclose some violent contrasts, but for ease of comparison they will be listed again:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Brooklin</th>
<th>Concord</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pottery fragments</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish bones</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone points</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stone arrow heads</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turtle shell fragments</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone fragments</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A few words of comment may now be in order. The writer has frequently observed that pottery is almost never found on the Concord camp or village sites. We have located one deposit on a small camp site and recovered a handful of sherds. We know of only one other such deposit, but have never had a chance to work on it, and fear that it has now been destroyed. In our field searches, we have found possibly six tiny sherds and never more than one at a time. It was with great hopes, therefore, that the excavation of the shell heap was entered upon. It was hoped that enough pottery would be found to partially reconstruct a pot and thereby gain an idea of the ceramic development of the valley. Three sherds were recovered in the entire area excavated. The Maine site, however, produced 127, which is normal. The writer offers no explanation for the great disparity.

All the Maine deposits contain numbers of fish bones of the same type. They look like thorns, but are slightly curved. They may have been used by the Indians as awls, or may simply have been hard enough to resist decay. We have never found one in the
Concord shell heap.

More bone points have been found in the Maine heaps than in Concord. This does not cause us any astonishment as the answer is found in a reverse proportion, even more strongly pronounced, in the stone arrow heads. It may be of interest to know that many of the heads from the Concord heap were small triangular implements with indented bases, a type that is almost never found in the Maine deposits.

The Concord heap contained hundreds of fragments of turtle shells. When these remains first came to light, we were considerably puzzled, but eventually pieces were secured which showed the unmistakable turtle shell pattern, and the problem solved itself. We do not remember ever seeing the common turtle listed as part of the Indian's dietary list. The Concord shell heap contained turtle shells in every part, and very profusely in the middle and lower levels. Therefore, it would seem that the turtle should be added to the list of Indian foods. We have never found a fragment of these shells in the Maine heaps.

Bone fragments are more numerous in the Concord heaps than in the Brooklin deposit by more than 200 examples, exclusive of the turtle shells. The reason for this may be that many animals were eaten here on the site along with the clams during feasts, and that although many were eaten on the Maine sites, they were consumed during the periodic visits, the principal purpose of which was the shucking and curing of clams and oysters for winter use; and we would therefore expect the proportion of bones to be smaller in Maine.

No attempt has been made at this time to determine the animals and birds from which the bones came, although there is hope that some zoologist may do so at some future date.

The writer hopes that this brief sketch may prove of interest. If it does nothing more, it

* Ed. note. These are probably the spines of sculpins, great numbers of which are found in shell heaps in Maine.
will put on record a few facts which should have been recorded many years ago while the record was fresh, and which have been observed as carefully as possible under rather difficult conditions.
At the last April meeting of our Society, we were privileged to hear some remarks by Fred Johnson on New England Archaeology. He attacked the pre-Algonkian, old Algonkian, and Algonkian terminology as set forth by Willoughby, as not fitting in with the facts as he saw them, or with the results of recent excavations by Phillips Academy and other institutions. It seems that a few remarks along this line at this time might not be out of place.

It was not until 1912, when Guernsey and Kidder published their "Archeological Explorations in Northwestern Arizona," clearly distinguishing the Cliff-Dweller-Pueblo and Basket Maker cultures that, properly speaking, systematic American Archaeology was born. Succeeding work by these two men served to bring the several periods, defined at the Pecos Conferences, into sharper focus. Dr. Kidder's work at Pecos showed the way to an orderly approach to the problem more clearly than ever. Earlier work had produced many theories on Southwestern Archaeology, a mass of uncorrelated, albeit very interesting, data but with no real order or chronology.

Dr. Kidder set up a chronological scale using pottery types, and developed certain major divisions of this time scale with which other sites could be correlated by pottery types. Later came Dr. A.E. Douglas with his tree ring chronology, which gave exact datings to the various phases of culture growth, checking exactly the relative chronology already outlined.

I suspect that we in New England are in a situation similar to that of the Southwest before Kidder and Guernsey, and that we are right on the threshold of developments which will give us a straight chronological build-up similar to that which is being made by Dr. Ritchie in New York State.
His work, done under the auspices of the Rochester Municipal Museum, has resulted in the discovery of polished slate tools associated with pottery and copper tools at Brewerton, New York. In New Jersey, semi-lunar knives have been found associated with pottery. At Vergennes, Vermont, polished slate, soapstone vessels, and pottery have been found in direct association. The Peabody Foundation for Archaeology at Phillips Academy has found slate bayonet points, gouges, and adzes with pottery in a shell heap.

This makes one question the division of New England archaeological material into pre-Algonkian, old Algonkian, and Algonkian cultures based upon the older determinants. The fact that Ritchie, just across the border in the territory through which cultural influences would seem to have to enter New England, has uncovered material that does not fit in with the old classification seems another bona fide reason for examining the older classification in the light of more recent knowledge.

One of the main arguments for the identification of the "Red Paint" group as pre-Algonkian was based upon the fact that Powell's work on the Beothuk language indicated that it was of a non-Algonkian type and that, therefore, the Beothuks were a survival of an older pre-Algonkian people.

Dr. F.G. Speck, in a monograph published by the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, in 1922, went over Powell's work together with additional information that had come to light. Speck came to the conclusion that the Beothuk language was of the Algonkian type. Jenness substantiates him. This work has stood the criticism of time and it is generally accepted by linguists.

It is interesting to note that red ochre (Red Paint) is found in graves not only in Maine, but also in Massachusetts, Vermont, Ontario, the Mississippi Valley, and in many burials in Europe and Asia. Furthermore, Beothuk artifacts from Beothuk graves, while similar to Red Paint artifacts, are not specifically the same. Ochre is very seldom found in Beothuk graves.
For the time being, New England Archaeology is in the process of turmoil and growing pains. After a half dozen type sites have been carefully excavated and published upon, we will be in a position to correlate the older classifications and see whether or not they stand up. It may well be that Willoughby's "pre-Algonkian" belongs to a new phase of the Woodland Pattern while the "old Algonkian" and "Algonkian" may belong to various aspects of the Northeastern Phase that have been influenced by the Mississippi Pattern.

It seems likely that we will not find any such clear cut differentiation as that given by Mr. Wil­oughby, but something more in the nature of a blend­ing of different features representing a gradual cultural growing and waning with possibly both independent invention and adaptation together with the introduction from the west of various new cul­tural features.

I feel therefore that the future holds a great deal of interest in this field. The knowledge will not come to light in one or two, or even, perhaps, ten years, but it can be acquired by all of us putting our shoulders to the wheel and helping. The Massachusetts Archaeological Society can and should have a major part in unfolding this story.
The Historical Research Committee of the Society has suggested that it might prove of value to members of the Society to have excerpts published in the Bulletin from time to time, of various original narratives that are somewhat difficult to obtain, but which throw light on the Indians from the standpoint of eye-witnesses of early events. In accordance with this purpose, this first installment is herewith presented, giving the earliest known portrayal of the Wampanoags, by Giovanni da Verrazano, an Italian who in 1524 spent two weeks in the harbor of Newport, Rhode Island. He sailed under the commission of King Francois I of France, and the text here reprinted consists of portions of his letter reporting his discoveries to the French King. Having sailed up the coast from the Carolinas, he at length passed Block Island, and proceeded on toward Narragansett Bay. Only those passages throwing light on the Indians are here chosen. These references are from "Sailors' Narratives of Voyages along the New England Coast 1524-1624," with notes by George Parker Winship, Boston, Houghton Mifflin & Co., 1905. (H.F.H.)

"We did not land there (Block Island), but proceeded to another place fifteen leagues distant from the island, where we found a very excellent harbour. Before entering it, we saw about twenty small boats full of people, who came about our ship, uttering many cries of astonishment, but they would not approach nearer than within fifty paces; stopping, they looked at the structure of our ship, our persons and dress, afterwards they all raised a loud shout together, signifying that they were pleased. By imitating their signs, we inspired them in some measure with confidence, so that they came near enough for us to toss to them some little bells and glasses, and many toys, which they took and looked at, laughing, and then came on board without fear. Among them were two kings more beautiful in form and stature than can possibly be described; one was about forty years old, the other about twenty-four, and they were dressed in the following manner: The oldest had a deer's skin about his body, artificially wrought in damask figures, his head was without covering, his hair was tied back in various knots; around his neck he wore a large chain ornamented with many stones of different colours. The young man..."
was similar in his general appearance. This is the finest looking tribe, and the handsomest in their costumes, that we have found in our voyage. They exceed us in size, and they are of a very fair complexion; some of them incline more to a white, and others to a tawny colour; their faces are sharp, their hair long and black, upon the adorning of which they bestow great pains; their eyes are black and sharp, their expression mild and pleasant, greatly resembling the antique. I say nothing to your Majesty of the other parts of the body, which are all in good proportion, and such as belong to well-formed men. Their women are of the same form and beauty, very graceful, of fine countenances and pleasing appearance in manners and modesty; they wear no clothing except a deer skin, ornamented like those worn by the men; some wear very rich lynx skins upon their arms, and various ornaments upon their heads, composed of braids of hair, which also hang down upon their breasts on each side. Others wear different ornaments, such as the women of Egypt and Syria use. The older and the married people, both men and women, wear many ornaments in their ears, hanging down in the oriental manner. We saw upon them several pieces of wrought copper, which is more esteemed by them than gold, as this is not valued on account of its colour, but is considered by them as the most ordinary of the metals, -- yellow being the colour especially disliked by them; azure and red are those in highest estimation with them. Of those things which we gave them, they prized most highly the bells, azure crystals, and other toys to hang in their ears and about their necks; they do not value or care to have silk or gold stuffs, or other kinds of cloth, nor implements of steel or iron. When we showed them our arms, they expressed no admiration, and only asked how they were made; the same was the case with the looking-glasses, which they returned to us, smiling, as soon as they had looked at them. They are very generous, giving away whatever they have. We formed a great friendship with them, and one day we entered into the port with our ship, having before rode at the distance of a league from the shore, as the weather was adverse. They came off to the ship with a number of their little boats, with their faces painted in divers colours, showing us real signs of joy, bringing us of their provisions, and signifying to us where we could best ride in safety with our ship, and keeping with us until we had cast anchor. We remained among them fifteen days,
to provide ourselves with many things of which we were in want, during which time they came every day to see our ship, bringing with them their wives, of whom they were very careful; for, although they came on board themselves, and remained a long while, they made their wives stay in the boats, nor could we ever get them on board by any entreaties or any presents we could make them. One of the two kings often came with his queen and many attendants, to see us for his amusement; but he always stopped at the distance of about two hundred paces, and sent a boat to inform us of his intended visit, saying they would come and see our ship -- this was done for safety, and as soon as they had an answer from us they came off, and remained awhile to look around; but on hearing the annoying cries of the sailors, the king sent the queen with her attendants, in a very light boat, to wait, near an island a quarter of a league distant from us, while he remained a long time on board, talking with us by signs, and expressing his fanciful notions about everything in the ship, and asking the use of all. After imitating our modes of salutation and tasting our food, he courteously took leave of us. Sometimes, when our men stayed two or three days on a small island, near the ship, for their various necessities, as sailors are wont to do, he came with seven or eight of his attendants, to inquire about our movements, often asking us if we intended to remain there long, and offering us everything at his command, and then he would shoot with his bow, and run up and down with his people, making great sport for us. We often went five or six leagues into the interior, and found the country as pleasant as is possible to conceive. -- The animals, which are in great numbers, as stags, deer, lynxes, and many other species, are taken by snares, and by bows, the latter being their chief implement; their arrows are wrought with great beauty, and for the heads of them, they use emery, jasper, hard marble, and other sharp stones, in the place of iron. They also use the same kind of sharp stones in cutting down trees, and with them they construct their boats of single logs, hollowed out with admirable skill, and sufficiently commodious to contain ten or twelve persons; their oars are short, and broad at the end, and are managed in rowing by force of the arms alone, with perfect security and as nimbly as they choose. We saw their dwellings, which are of a circular form, of about ten or twelve paces in circumference, made of logs split in halves, without
any regularity of architecture, and covered with roofs of straw, nicely put on, which protect them from wind and rain. There is no doubt that they could build stately edifices if they had workmen as skilful as ours, for the whole sea-coast abounds in shining stones, crystals and alabaster, and for the same reason it has coverts and retreats for animals. They change their habitations from place to place as circumstances of situation and season may require; this is easily done, as they have only to take with them their mats, and they have other houses prepared at once. The father and the whole family dwell together in one house in great numbers; in some we saw twenty-five or thirty persons. Their food is pulse,* as with the other tribes, which is here better than elsewhere, and more carefully cultivated; in the time of sowing they are governed by the moon, the sprouting of grain, and many other ancient usages. They live by hunting and fishing, and they are long-lived. If they fall sick, they cure themselves without medicine, by the heat of the fire, and their death at last comes from extreme old age. We judge them to be very affectionate and charitable toward their relatives -- making loud lamentations in their adversity, and in their misery calling to mind all their good fortune. At their departure out of life, their relations mutually join in weeping, mingled with singing, for a long while. This is all that we could learn of them.

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*Properly, the seeds of any legume, as beans and peas; probably here includes maize as well, which at this time was not known to Europeans. (Ed. note)