

an ornament, and if the hole were completed, we might take that view of it, but, as there is no hole through, the above theory will not hold.

The peculiar marks on the neck—merely a shadow—which were not noticed before the photograph made them discernable, are a matter of conjecture among experts. They have every appearance of hieroglyphics of some sort and are being studied by means of enlarged photographs and powerful glasses by an expert; but his opinion is not ready for publication. This study may assist in solving the mystery of this curious relic and we await with interest his valued opinion.

I need not call your attention to the symmetry of this bust, nor to the shape and poise of the head, to the physiognomy nor the facial expression, depicted. As this half-tone was made from a photograph, wholly by chemical process, you have before you every light and shadow reflected by the original. The best artists cannot improve on the original, except by retouching the negative. No retouching has been done on this picture and you have the same chance to note these beauties and judge the art of the original, as well as the skill of its execution, as though you were viewing the original itself.

I naturally supposed I had discovered a very rare specimen, but after seeing the photograph, Mr. Brower wrote me, under date of March 31:

"Of the busts, clay and stone, I have over fifty, all about the same size."

A single specimen is shown in his last volume of memoirs, "Mille Lac," 1899. This is a catlanite image about the size of this hematite bust; but it shows, also, about one-half of the body or else is a "terminal bust." The view is a pen drawing and one cannot tell from it, but it shows a credible specimen of sculpture. It was taken from a mound in South Dakota by Hon. John Lind, governor of that state.

Sioux images of pipestone are described by Catlin in "North American Indians." (Vol. 1, p. 234, edition of 1842.) Some illustrations are given and both of these images might well belong to that class.

Mr. E. A. Kilian, of Alma, Kansas, a gentleman of scholarly attainments, who has taken much interest in matters archæologic, during his many years of active school work in Kansas and other states, has very kindly sent me a copy of an article which he clipped from the Kansas City Journal of March 3, 1901. It is of sufficient interest in connection with this bust and as a matter of record for preservation to reproduce:

"A tiny stone head in the collection of Geo. U. S. Hovey, of Wyandotte County, Kansas, has given its owner a very fruitful subject of thought and has also interested the wise men at the

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, and the Peabody Museum, Boston.

"This interesting relic is about the size of this hematite bust. It was carved from stone and in color, of a light yellowish cast. Mr. Hovey picked it up near the great stone house of antiquity around the mounds of Wyandotte County, Kansas. It was found under an accumulation of soil of some little distance, and must have been there for years, perhaps for centuries, before Europeans came to this country. That it is a very well-executed piece of work is shown by an examination. It was the workmanship of one of the best artisans of the time \* \* \* The big nose which Napoleon liked in his generals, and width between the eyes, seem to favor the sterner sex. Markings for the hair are not shown. \* \* \* The back of the head is flat; at the base are two projections with notches. This Mr. Hovey thinks indicates that the stone was to be fastened to a piece of wood. Other stones with projections which might have been made to represent a nose, have been found in the neighborhood. These may have been used as dolls.

"But this particular head must have been much too important for a plaything. It seems to me it belonged to some high priest or chief. It was fastened to a wand—from it radiated circles of feathers and fringes of beautifully colored hair and bits of the finest fur! Brought to view at times of feasts, victory or worship; its office was of great ceremonial importance.

"Mr. Hovey does not attempt to identify the race of people by whom this relic was made. We think that everything the former inhabitants of this land made, was for a purpose, and we try to think, too, that what they could do they did, but scientists tell us that this little head was hardly made here. A scholar who has spent some time delving in the past, said that it was undoubtedly a southern manufacture; that he had seen similar heads on Aztec vases in the museum in the city of Mexico.

"Such being the case, Mr. Hovey thinks we have an explanation for many things that are sometimes puzzling to the antiquarians. In other words, he thinks there was more intercourse between the different tribes and peoples that inhabited this country than many persons suppose. Our curio being, then, of foreign make, leads us to believe that in the long time ago the tribes were not at war. There were periods of peace in which the domestic pleasures of life were cultivated, and when art and even luxury were not unknown. \* \* \* \* \*

"Professor Otis Mason, of the Smithsonian Institution has been in correspondence about the relic; perhaps he will have a different and more interesting theory about it. We are entitled to our views and if any one can throw light on the matter I am sure that we shall be very thankful."

From the accompanying pen sketch which Mr. Kilian sent with the article, one is led to believe it is a "terminal bust;" that is, one where the head only is carved from a solid block and the rest of the block is left in rectangular or natural form. Eminent authorities tell us that the ancients used terminal busts as representatives of deities and that they were placed at the bounds of villages, provinces or estates to propitiate

the various duties and bring good influences to ward off evil.

This, however, may have no bearing upon the use of these terminal miniature busts.

Mr. Kilian also sent me a pen sketch of a flat, lime-stone idol (?) cut in rude representation of a human head. It is in the collection of Miss Kate B. Sawrs, of TreScott, Kansas. It was found in 1887, is six inches high and three-quarters of an inch thick. This is of an entirely different school of sculpture, however.

The Hovey bust seems to belong to the same class as the catebanite Dakota bust mentioned above, and this hematite bust found at Roca may well be classified in the same category, although it is not a "terminal bust," as the others seem to be, but is "in the round." The size would place them in the same class at least. The flat side of the Hovey bust fits very nicely with a future reference made of the use of these tiny stone images by the Tusayan Indians of New Mexico.

From all the accounts at hand, these three busts stand alone in their class, all three are miniature and all three were, doubtless, used for the same purpose.

#### Were They all Three Made and Used by the Same Race of People?

I am inclined to call your attention to the fact that the Wichitas, who wandered south, and the Pawnees, who wandered north, once belonged to the same tribe, and I believe the finding of these three busts, in their respective localities (South Dakota, Lincoln, Neb., Kansas City, Kansas.) is one more link in the chain of evidence pointing out this whole area as once the home of a very interesting people. As to the finding of the "fifty specimens in clay and stone" of which Mr. Brower speaks, I know nothing, and as he is now in the far northern Hudson bay country, I cannot give you the history. It may come later, however.

In my search through the nineteen volumes of Reports of the Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution, I find not a single counterpart. The busts and images mentioned there are all large and but few are enumerated.

In the sixth annual report, page 23, W. H. Holmes mentions the figure of a woman carved in stone; it is 23 inches high and was found on the Isthmus of Panama. It is in the McNeil collection. This image is carved from basaltic rock and the features are quite symmetrical. It resembles the miniature Dakota bust in features near enough to be a relation. Another specimen, three feet in height, from the island of Cana is in the National museum. This belongs to the Central American, School of Sculpture. Dr. Everett, of Lincoln, has a clay bust from Central America, that I have seen.