

I place those of bronze and brass, which have no distinction in form or age, but vary in composition. Bronze rings are among these, made by the French, and usually adorned with letters or symbols. Oval and angular medals are also found of a similar character, but of a higher type. Bracelets of copper wire, earrings of the same, pendants of rolled copper, and other things, belong to the same period. Until the close of the seventeenth century this material was commonly used in Indian trade and adornment. Early in the eighteenth silver ornaments came in, and have not yet quite passed away. Wherever found, it is safe to place silver articles in the latter period.

Among the recent copper articles found in the Iroquois district of New York, the flat and triangular arrow-heads of sheet copper may be noticed. They were probably made in the Indian towns, as shreds of this copper may still be found on New York Iroquois sites of the seventeenth century. The base is usually straight and narrow, and the two straight sides longer in proportion; but the arrow is not large, and may have a perforation or not. I mention these thus particularly, because they are precisely like those found with the Fall River remains, often termed "The Skeleton in Armor," and supposed by a few persons to be characteristic of the Northmen. The mode of attachment was the same in both cases.

Two recent writers have referred to this skeleton, with opposite views. Professor R. B. Anderson, in "America not discovered by Columbus," said this was found in 1831 (an error in date), and seems sure that the grave was that of a viking. He states that the metal and style corresponded with "old Northern armors" of the tenth century. On the other hand, Mr. J. W. Foster, in the appendix to his "Prehistoric Races," says that the skeleton "represents simply all that was mortal of a Narragansett Indian, rigged out in European trappings."

The valuable "Bibliography of the Pre-Columbian Discoveries of America," by Mr. P. B. Watson, appended to Professor Ander-

son's little volume, does not include one of the best and most accessible references. In his "Life of Brant," Col. Stone not only gives the Northmen credit for their discoveries, on p. 487 of his second volume, but adds a long note on the subject (pp. li.-lvii.) in the appendix. In this he not only gives a summary of the voyages of the Northmen, but a full account of the grave in the town of Fall River, Mass., opened in 1837. The body was in a sitting posture, the head being a foot below the surface of the ground. The grave was lined with coarse bark, the body enveloped in a coarse cloth made of finer bark. On the breast was an oval "plate of brass, thirteen inches long, six broad at the upper end, and five at the lower." Below this, and reaching around the body, was a belt of brass tubes, set upright and side by side. These thin brass tubes,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, and less than a quarter of an inch in diameter, were fastened together by sinews. Some arrows were in a bark quiver, parts of the shafts still adhering to some of the heads. "The arrows are of brass, thin, flat, and triangular in shape, with a round hole cut through near the base. The shaft was fastened to the head by inserting the latter in an opening at the end of the wood, and then tying it with a sinew through the round hole,—a mode of constructing the weapon never practised by the Indians."

Part of the flesh had been preserved by contact with the brass; and a figure of the skeleton, with the armor and arrows, was given. No surer test can be applied than to place some Onondaga or Cayuga arrows beside the latter; for like Iroquois arrows are still found, both free and attached to the shafts.

The breast-plate may simply have been the early and plain brass gorget, small specimens of which may still be found in Onondaga County, N.Y., but which was there replaced a little later by the large and highly ornamented silver brooches, some of which covered the entire breast.

I have seen a comparatively early Indian belt from Cayuga County which had parallel rows of very short brass tubes, though

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