

attached to the grave posts of certain Algonkin tribes. This may be a further development of the thunder-bird idea.

Isolated cases have been noted of the finding of birdstones in the stone-grave burials of Tennessee, although the rarity of their occurrence would not make this an important factor in the canoe-prow theory.

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STOPPERS OR MODELING TOOLS

In an article entitled *Various Implements of Earthen Ware*, Bureau of American Ethnology Annual Report 20, pages 35–36, illustration and mention are made of what the writer calls “trowel like objects of baked clay which are occasionally found in the central districts of the Mississippi valley.”

He further states, “When placed stem downward these implements very closely resemble an ordinary form of toadstool. They have been regarded by some as stoppers for bottles but this was certainly not their normal use, and General Thruston is probably right in classing them as modeling tools for pottery making.”

In my collection I have a pottery water bottle which was found with a stopper in place, shaped like a toadstool. These specimens were found at Bone-Bank, an ancient village site situated on the banks of the Wabash River, Posey County, Indiana.

I have heard questioned the opinion of General Thruston that these toadstool-shaped objects were not normally used as stoppers for bottles, and I should like to hear the opinion of some interested students.

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“CELL-TEMPERED” POTTERY

In *AMERICAN ANTIQUITY*, Vol. 1, No. 2, pp. 152–153, the Editor quotes a report on “cell-tempered” pottery by J. O. Everhart. Dr. Everhart points out the facts that calcite can be positively identified optically by refractive indices, that it is subject to solution by acidulated ground waters, and that the shape of the cavities in the pottery is such as would be formed by shell fragments but not by any of the other forms in which calcite occurs. As long as some material remains in the cavities it should, therefore, be a simple matter to prove whether or not the “cell-tempered” pastes are in reality only shell-tempered pastes which have been subject to leaching.

Dr. Everhart’s suggestion regarding the original mineralogical composition of the shell, and his explanation of the spalling of the sherds call, however, for demonstration. The statement that “Most marine shells are composed largely of aragonite—” is insufficient basis for supposing that these particular shells