

Customs of Several Indian Tribes and Memoirs of a Captivity among the Indians of North America, printed in 1823 and 1824, respectively, in Philadelphia. I can trace no edition for 1824 in this country. There were, however, in London three editions of *Manners . . .* bearing the title: *Memoirs of a Captivity. . .* I repeat, the London editions were the same as the original American one, with the addition of some material purporting to vouch for the veracity of the author, and a title calculated to make the book more popular in England.

Source material should be examined personally and critically evaluated. Citing a small bit here and there is as apt to be dangerous or useless as taking a drug in defiance of instructions to "shake well before using." I will not go into the authenticity of Hunter's material, but if you do not question it after reading the entire book, I would suggest that you read its contemporary review by Lewis Cass.²⁹

In this case, if Fewkes had read the work he was citing he would not have even intimated that the molding of vessels over wood blocks was practiced by the Kickapoo. On page 221 of the 1823 Philadelphia edition, Hunter qualified his account thus: "What remains to be said of the Indians, relates more particularly to the Osages, although it will apply with almost as much propriety to the Kansas, Mahas, and Ottowas [sic. Otos]." Possibly also he would not have given Hunter as the authority for his statement that such molding was also done "over a basket (?) or perhaps a contraption made of twigs especially for the purpose," for the words of Hunter were as follows:

"Another method practised by them, is, to coat the inner surface of baskets made of rushes or willows, with clay, to any required thickness, and when dry, to burn them as above described." (*Manners and Customs of Several Indian Tribes* (Philadelphia, J. Maxwell, 1823, p. 297).)

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THE PURCHASE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIAL

The recent publication of an article advising travelers in the out-of-doors to keep their eyes open for archaeological specimens and natural history specimens which might be sold to museums or collectors as a means of increasing income makes it not untimely for us to state our position in regard to the purchase of archaeological material.

Collecting artifacts with no regard for their situation and association is analogous to tearing pages out of books. Unscrupulous collectors with an eye for monetary gains have been guilty of the worst types of vandalism. It goes without saying that most archaeologists are not as interested in artifacts that have been robbed of their setting as they are in artifacts that have been preserved along with all the associated information. To suggest at this time that a

²⁹ North Amer. Rev., 22: 94-107, Jan., 1826.

ready sale for any or all archaeological material may be found at museums seems rather unfortunate.

Our present policy here at Andover is not to purchase relics indiscriminately. Should any of our friends bring in important specimens that they have purchased in order to preserve them, we are always glad to repay them any expenses that they may have incurred. We do not feel justified in buying any specimen that may turn up without finding out whether it meets our requirements. It must fall into one of the following classes:

1. Artifacts turned up by accident, such as by agricultural undertakings or construction work.
2. Artifacts acquired by an individual desiring to preserve them from inevitable destruction or loss.
3. Artifacts supported by reliable information as to provenience and manner of occurrence.

We very definitely refuse to purchase artifacts that have been rooted out of the ground with the express intention of selling them, or without regard for the surrounding circumstances. We furthermore reserve the right to refuse to accept gifts of artifacts that are not supported by satisfactory records.

It has been our policy to aid fellow students of archaeology in every possible way, and to share with others the knowledge and information that we have acquired. We will do all in our power to help those who are earnestly interested in perfecting their methods of keeping records, or of securing information, but we will not stir a finger tip for those who are motivated by greed or commercial instincts.

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LITHIC PROBLEMS

In every science the matter of nomenclature is a basic stumbling block which must be surmounted in order that ideas and accomplishments of any may be interpreted and correlated by all.

In the Lithic Laboratory for the Eastern United States, we have found it necessary to take certain steps toward uniformity in order that we may effectually achieve our ultimate aim of correlation between the primitive implements which are discovered and the occurrence of the outcrops from which the material was procured by the aborigines.

Since numerous errors in the identification of lithic materials have been made in archaeological papers in the past, as most will admit, the work of these writers is nugatory as far as the Lithic Laboratory is concerned unless these particular specimens are available for our own identification.

A fairly accurate study of the works of thirty-five of the foremost geolo-