

Excavations of a Florida Mound.

Southern Florida is very rich in relics of a pre-historic people; what with a most singular system of ancient canals, the design of which has long been an unsolved problem, there are numerous shell and sand mounds along the mainland and some islands, that would well repay the research of the archaeologist.

Recently while sailing down the east-boundary short trips up the rivers to examine those parts of the country, frequently, otherwise not accessible, my attention was directed to a very singular mound on the Withlacoochee River, by a settler, who showed me some human bones that he had taken from the place. I did not examine for myself this mound, as I was anxious to make the ascent of the river, but on my return I stopped at the mound and though ill, prepared to make a thorough examination, I concluded to make, at least, a partial excavation, assisted by the large quantities of bones already unearthed by some former visitor. The mound is small, oval in shape, measuring 150 feet in circumference, by 45 feet in diameter, and rises only 5½ feet above the level, but being composed almost wholly of sand it has lost considerably. Several feet from its original height. This is evident from the fact that barely eighteen (18) inches of soil cover the remains at the top. The mound was growing upon the sea

Anon.

the 18th and 19th centuries, the 18th century was the 18th century, and the 19th century was the 19th century.

in cases I do not comprehend of hundreds or thousands of my but what you would see a sitting posture, curled in this they were placed in the marginal position, it is posed in a circle of these layers with the heads to the center and only two feet space of space between. Another singular feature is the proportion of large bones, such as skulls, humerus, tibia &c., while the metacarpals, and os carpometacarpal are rare, indeed I found but one entire pelvis with a fragment of another. All are bones of adults, are distended and so brittle that great care is required to preserve them whole while examining. The bones of the skull are very thick, the occipital especially, being the thickest. I have seen in any race. The occipital process being together with the separation and inferior on upper line and crest are so prominent that I doubt not a various various facts than the

be an extraneous growth. The sinuses are deep and strongly covered; the maxillary sinuses are large and deep, while the teeth in every instance are much worn. In general shape these shells approach somewhat those found fresh, ~~with~~ ^{and} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ which, rather larger. The bone, a fibula, has, during the growth of its possessor, received an ingrowing, and now presents a singular appearance being twisted one round besides the relief of some of the prominent of a blunt arrow head. A gentleman a short while previous to my first discovery, on a base of the structure, put so many holes that on taking it up it was, unfortunately, broken. Doubtless other collectors would be found on a more extensive search. Another account, side like the largest on the list, is on an island called Uspag (Uspag) in the Gulf of Japan. Charlotte Harbor, it is thought, is a good place, and would be well worthy of a more extensive search on making a complete survey of the Gulf of Mexico. Uspag is a small island in the Gulf of Mexico, and is a good place for a more extensive search.