

3^d Superior Court,
Montreal. P.Q. May

Dear Doctor Dawson

I send you the
extract that I spoke
of the other day. I cut it
from the Toronto Globe of
April 27th. It seems to
come from a Californian
paper. Whether it is
a hoax or not you will
be better able to judge
than I.

Yours faithfully

Amused Dawson
Mégill Coll.

J. H. M.

Joseph [unclear]
[unclear]

ORIGINAL COPY
1865

Judge Thum
May 187

A REMARKABLE DISCOVERY.

A Skull Three Feet by Two Turns up in an Indian Grave.

The Durango, Cal., *Record* says:—"The following extracts from a letter received by Mr. Charles Newman, of the wholesale drug house of Newman, Chestnut, & Stevens, of this city, will be found of great interest, detailing as they do, the discovery of the most remarkable pre-historic remains yet unearthed. That "there were giants in those days" can no longer be doubted, a skull measuring three feet in length testifying to their existence among the pre-historic people who once inhabited the valley of the San Juan River. Mr. Newman reports the writer of the letter, Mr. Carpenter, to be a reliable man, and he will avail himself of his offer and take charge of the remains, which will be removed to Durango at an early day. Farmington is situated about fifty miles south of Durango, at the confluence of the Animas and San Juan rivers, and the discovery was made within three miles of town. The following is the letter detailing the particulars of the discovery:—

"FARMINGTON, N.M., March 2, 1881.

"Charles Newman, Esq.,

"I found yesterday the tomb of an Indian, whom I think, by the very thick skull, to have been a man. The skull was, by measure, three feet long by two feet wide. It was walled in by a mud wall on the east and north, and by the stone wall of the room on the other sides. The head of the skeleton was toward the north. The legs had been doubled up on the chest. The bones were thick but short, and so far decayed that on being taken out they crumbled to pieces, except those of the vertebrae and the bones of the leg. In juxtaposition with the left side of the body, opposite the elbow, were two stone vessels, one a black, scaly, oblong body, with convex bottom and haring edge at the mouth, and would hold about half a gallon. The other is a highly painted, in fact, artistically finished, mug or cup, with a handle on one side, though the latter was broken in the centre; otherwise the cup is in good preservation. It measured 4 inches high, 3½ inches at the top, and 4½ inches at the base. This cup contained wheat, which, though decayed and white, is readily recognized by the most careless observer. The other vessel probably contained water, as I could not find anything else but sand and dirt, with which it was filled.

"After cleaning everything out of the tomb, I dug through the mud wall, which was about eight inches thick, when I found several flat rocks, two of them being mill stones for grinding grain. They are about twelve inches long, four inches wide, and one inch thick. One side is slightly oval, the other flat. After uncovering several other flat sand rocks, I exposed an empty vessel which was sunk down so that the top would be on a level with the dead Indian. It was walled in with mud to the top, which was covered with the flat rock I just mentioned. It was probably filled with water, which had evaporated centuries ago, as it was clean and free from all sand or debris. After an hour's hard work I succeeded in extracting it, when I found it was cracked in several places. It will hold seven or eight gallons. This was on the east side, or rather on the left of the body. On continuing my explorations through the mud walls, I found another vessel of the same kind, but a little smaller, at the head of the body, about one-third full of meal, of which I have saved about a quart. It is in colour of a whitish brown to a dark brown colour, and very light in weight. This vessel was cracked and some pieces broken off the top, so I did not take it out. I should have mentioned before that above this was a stone hammer not unlike a miner's eight pound hammer, except that it had a ring cut around the centre instead of an eye; also close to this was a stone axe, sharpened at one end and round at the other, with a ring cut around it. This completed the Indian's outfit, except about a peck of wheat that was in a layer three or more inches deep to the left of the last vessel, and covering a space two feet wide by three feet long. There was a stone wall running east and west immediately outside of the last vessel and wheat."

A REMARKABLE DISCOVERY.

A Skull Three Feet by Two Turns up in an Indian Grave.

The Durango, Cal., *Record* says:—The following extracts from a letter received by Mr. Charles Newman, of the wholesale drug house of Newman, Chestnut, & Stevens, of this city, will be found of great interest, detailing as they do, the discovery of the most remarkable pre-historic remains yet unearthed. That "there were giants in those days" can no longer be doubted, a skull measuring three feet in length testifying to their existence among the pre-historic people who once inhabited the valley of the San Juan River. Mr. Newman reports the writer of the letter, Mr. Carpenter, to be a reliable man, and he will avail himself of his offer and take charge of the remains, which will be removed to Durango at an early day.

Farmington is situated about fifty miles south of Durango, at the confluence of the Animas and San Juan rivers, and the discovery was made within three miles of town. The following is the letter detailing the particulars of the discovery:—

"FARMINGTON, N.M., March 2, 1881.

"Charles Newman, Esq.,

"I found yesterday the tomb of an Indian, whom I think, by the very thick skull, to have been a man. The skull was, by measure, three feet long by two feet wide. It was walled in by a mud wall on the east and north, and by the stone wall of the room on the other sides. The head of the skeleton was toward the north. The legs had been doubled up on the chest. The bones were thick but short, and so far decayed that on being taken out they crumbled to pieces, except those of the vertebrae and the bones of the leg. In juxtaposition with the left side of the body, opposite the elbow, were two stone vessels, one a black, scaly, oblong body, with convex bottom and flaring edge at the mouth, and would hold about half a gallon. The other is a highly painted, in fact, artistically finished, mug or cup, with a handle on one side, though the latter was broken in the centre; otherwise the cup is in good preservation. It measured 4 inches high, 3½ inches at the top, and 4½ inches at the base. This cup contained wheat, which, though decayed and white, is readily recognized by the most careless observer. The other vessel probably contained and dirt, with which it was filled.

"After cleaning everything out of the tomb, I dug through the mud wall, which was about eight inches thick, when I found several flat rocks, two of them being mill stones for grinding grain. They are about twelve inches long, four inches wide, and one inch thick. One side is slightly oval, the other flat. After uncovering several other flat sand rocks, I exposed an empty vessel which was sunk down so that the top would be on a level with the dead Indian. It was walled in with mud to the top, which was covered with the flat rock I just mentioned. It was probably filled with water, which had evaporated centuries ago, as it was clean and free from all sand or debris. After an hour's hard work I succeeded in extracting it, when I found it was cracked in several places. It will hold seven or eight gallons. This was on the east side, or rather on the left of the body. On continuing my explorations through the mud walls, I found another vessel of the same kind, but a little smaller, at the head of the body, about one-third full of meal, of which I have saved about a quart. It is in colour of a whitish brown to a dark brown colour, and very light in weight. This vessel was cracked and some pieces broken off the top, so I did not take it out. I should have mentioned before that above this was a stone hammer, except that it had a ring cut around the centre instead of an eye; also close to this was a stone axe, sharpened at one end and round at the other, with a ring cut around it. This completed the Indian's outfit, except about a peck of wheat that was in a layer three or more inches deep to the left of the last vessel, and covering a space two feet wide by three feet long. There was a stone wall running east and west immediately outside of the last vessel and wheat."