

fore the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters he spoke a number of times and at his death he was vice-president of that organization.

"Mr. Cole had been to Europe twice, and was widely traveled over his own country. One visit was made to Alaska. Notable friends he had everywhere, and with many he maintained a lively and intimate correspondence. He had a wide knowledge of books, his library extensive and of solid literary, historic, scientific and philosophic merit."*

The Wisconsin Archeological Society has never had a more devoted, active or unselfish member than Harry E. Cole. His interest in its undertakings and his activity in its behalf never ceased until the day of his death. In years past he frequently spoke at its Milwaukee meetings and helped to organize its state field assemblies. He often appeared before the committees of the state legislature in behalf of its appropriation and other bills. To call on Harry E. Cole for any public educational service was to secure his assistance. The doors of his hospitable home at Baraboo were ever open to archaeologists, historians, geologists and nature lovers, and his automobile was ever at their command for expeditions into all parts of the state. The officers and members of the Wisconsin Archeological Society especially mourn the loss of so great a friend as he was. He sleeps in beautiful Walnut Hill cemetery at Baraboo, near some of the men and women whose achievements his ready pen has helped to perpetuate and within sight of the beautiful Baraboo range whose scenic beauties, geology, archaeology and history no man has ever known so well.

THE HISTORIC BRULE

LOUISE PHELPS KELLOGG

Far up in the northwest corner of Wisconsin, near the western end of Lake Superior issues a small river, which has had a long and varied history and has considerably influenced the destinies of Wisconsin. The headsprings of this stream lie almost a hundred miles to the south where

* The Wisconsin State Journal, April 14, 1928.

they interlock with those of the St. Croix River, a tributary of the Mississippi. It is due to this fact that both the rivers have become historic, for by following either and portaging to the other the shortest way between the water systems of the Great Lakes and the great river is found. The northern stream makes a swift descent of over five hundred feet to the waters of Lake Superior, forming it is said, two hundred and forty distinct rapids, some of which are considerable cascades; it is navigable only by the frail birch canoes of the Indians. These skillful canoemen can run down the river making only four portages; in ascending, however, the portages and *décharges*¹ are numerous and a birch bark flotilla needed five or more days for the voyage.

This waterway was known to the redmen long before the advent of the whites; through the thick bordering forest they urged their frail craft, intent upon seeking game or bent on a war expedition against their enemies. The first Indians, who lived thereabouts were the Sioux tribesmen and their name for the river was the Nemitsakouat, by that name it is called in a letter of La Salle written in 1661.

The year before had taken place the first recorded journey of a white man along this river—no less a personage than La Salle's great rival, Daniel Greysolon Sieur Duluth. This brave adventurer had come to the far Northwest to reconcile the Sioux Indians with their hereditary enemies, the Chippewa, whose habitat lay at the eastern end of Lake Superior. The rival war parties made all routes unsafe either for hunting or for discovery. Duluth was very successful in his pacification, having brought the chiefs of both tribes together and held a peace council where the city now stands that bears his name. "In June, 1680," he writes in his journal, "not being satisfied with my exploration by land I took two canoes, with a savage who was my interpreter, and with four Frenchmen, to seek the means of making it by water. For this purpose I entered into a river which has its mouth eight leagues from the extremity of Lake Superior on the south side, where after having cut down some trees and broken through about one hundred beaver

¹ A *décharge* is a place where only the load is taken from the canoe and the craft itself poled through the rapid.

dams, I went up the said river, and then made a carry of half a league to reach a lake, which emptied into a fine river, which brought me to the Mississippi."

The French guarded this waterway by rudely built forts, one on Madeline Island in Chequamegon Bay, one on an island in the Mississippi, and a third was placed for a time on upper Lake St. Croix. They were, however, obliged to abandon this region because of the outbreak of the Chippewa-Sioux war, the great battle of which was fought near the falls of St. Croix, early in the eighteenth century. The Chippewa won and drove the Sioux from these hunting grounds. They renamed the river Wis-a-ko-da (Misacoda) which means burnt pines; this the French translated to Bois Brulé from which is derived the modern name of Brule.

One other title was borne by this stream during the eighteenth century when it was named Goddard's River for an early fur trader by the famous Jonathan Carver, first English traveler in Wisconsin. When he was here in July, 1767 he says "this [the river] was so scant of water we were obliged to raise it with dams for passage."

Among the first Americans to visit this stream were Henry Rowe Schoolcraft in 1831 and his party guarded by Lieutenant James Allen of the Fifth United States Infantry with a number of troops. Schoolcraft, who was Indian agent at Sault Ste. Marie came out to vaccinate the Chippewa of this locality, among whom was the famous Chief Pezhicki, or Buffalo, who had visited President Monroe at Washington and wore a silver medal on his breast bearing the president's effigy. Schoolcraft speaks of moose hunting on the Burntwood River, while Allen says "the river is exceedingly cold and clear and is filled with thousands of the real mountain brook trout"—a fisherman's paradise a hundred years ago. Allen, however, had hard work to descend this rapid stream with awkward soldiers unaccustomed to guiding canoes in strong water, the craft struck so often on the rocks that the supply of gum to mend the birch bark was exhausted, and part of the soldiers had to take to the woods and clamber among the rocky steeps of the river's bank. "Often," says Schoolcraft, "on looking down its channel there are wreaths of foam constituting a brilliant vista.

This stream might appropriately be called Rapid or Mad River."

Thus the many-named stream—Nemitsakouat, Wisakoda, Bois Brulé, Burntwood, Goddard, Brule or Mad River has threaded the dark forests of northwest Wisconsin, an historic stream, known formerly to a few, now of world wide fame, as the summer home for the chief executive of the nation. In 1803 it was the route of a French-Canadian fur-trader who gives us some of the Indian names for localities. He slept one night at "le petit Pakouijawin," a native term for a bayou or lake just above the last quick water and not far from Cedar Island lodge. Near by was "le grand Pakouijawin" and from its head there ran an old Indian trail to where Superior now stands.

Thus this river justifies its title of the historic Brule, frequented in prehistoric times by the Sioux who were driven thence by their rivals the Chippewa; traversed in the seventeenth century by French discoverers and soldiers of fortune; a well-known waterway in the eighteenth century for British explorers and fur traders, it became in the nineteenth century a lumberer's stream, until with more leisurely days came the sportsmen and tourists who have placed the historic Brule on the map of the world.

EFFIGY PLATFORM PIPE

CHARLES E. BROWN

The very interesting Indian ceremonial pipe illustrated in the frontispiece of this issue of *The Wisconsin Archeologist* was plowed up in the year 1925 from a gravel hill on the Atwood farm, in the S½ of Section 5, Albion Township, Dane County, Wisconsin.

The disk, with slightly concave surfaces, probably representing a discoidal stone, has in front of it a headless kneeling female figure, both on a rather thick and broad platform base.

This pipe has the following dimensions, and weight:

Height—5¾ inches.

Length—6½ inches.

Base—Length 5¾ inches, width 2¾ inches, thickness ⅞ to 1 inch.

Diameter of discoidal—5¼ inches, thickness 2¾ inches.

Height of kneeling figure—4¼ inches.

Weight—5¾ pounds.