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## Department of Ethnology: Annual Report 1896 - 1897

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Ethnology

(Report for the  
Year Ending June 30, 1897)



*Ethnology*

*Reviewed*

*Jra* *a N'd.*  
DIVISION OF  
AUG 2 1897  
CORRESPONDENCE & REC'D

1. How has the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, compared with the previous year, as far as (a) the number of accessions and (b) their scientific value are concerned?

During the fiscal year ending July 1, 1896, the number of regular accessions is 97 and of temporary accessions and loans, 6. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, the number of accessions has been 79, it will be seen, therefore, that there is a falling off in the number of accessions in this Department.

The attention of the Secretary ought to be called to the fact that since this Department has lost the cooperation of the Fish Commission, the Government Surveys, and of the Revenue Marine and Coast Survey services in the Pacific, the main dependence has been upon the Bureau of Ethnology and the Consular services of the Department of State, and upon the Department of Agriculture. Few military expeditions now go to the west and the Indian Bureau is engaged altogether in civilizing the various tribes of our own country, so that in the present method there has been a steady decline in the contributions to the Department of Ethnology which ought to be remedied in some way.



2. Name, in the order of their importance, the accessions of the year which deserve special notice, and state in each case whether given, lent, received in exchange or purchased.

Among the accessions the following may be mentioned as especially valuable for study and comparison.

1. Gift of Doctor W. L. Abbott, from Trong in Lower Siam, 121 specimens and from the Malay Archipelago, 12 specimens.
2. A small collection from Dakota and the Northern boundary, gift from the estate of the late <sup>Major</sup> ~~Captain~~ C. E. Bendire.
3. Through the generosity of Mrs. Bourke all of the ethnological objects, that were not personal souvenirs of Captain John G. Bourke, have been given to the Museum.
4. From the Bureau of Ethnology, 233 specimens brought in by Mrs. Matilda C. Stevenson, and other small collections through Professor W J Mc.Gee, Mr. Marcus Baker and Mr. James Mooney.
5. Lt. Calkins, U. S. N., 37 specimens from Shanghai, China, purchased.
6. The Canterbury Museum in New Zealand, 16 specimens in exchange.
7. Honorable John Daggett of California, 18 photographs of Klamath Indians in exchange.
8. Doctor J. Walter Fewkes, 108 specimens of general ethnological interest from the Moki pueblos, gift.
9. Gift of 20 specimens from A. E. Hippisley, China.
10. E. W. Nelson 242 specimens from Alaska, purchased.
11. Doctor Edward Palmer 94 specimens from Durango, Mexico, purchased.
12. Through the Honorable W. W. Rockhill, Assist. Sec'y of State, excellent small collections of photographs and other material have been received from Consuls in Korea and the far East, Gift.
13. Through Miss E. R. Scidmore 172 photographs secured during her trip around the World, gift.
14. B. W. Snyder, 85 specimens from Africa, exchange.
15. Through J. W. Stranahan, a good general collection from the Seminole Indians of Florida, purchased.
16. From Miss M. A. Tribolet, 22 specimens from Burma, gift. (See Mooney Ans. 6.)

As regards ~~to~~ the scientific value of this material, a great deal of it was collected under the direction of this Curator for

the



the purpose of supplying missing links in the already existing collections, so that very little of the material secured during the last fiscal year is such that would not be useful in the study series. But by far the largest and most precious addition to the collection was the material secured by Doctor J. Walter Fewkes among the ancient pueblos of Arizona, chiefly pottery of ancient type and objects of wood, textile and stone connected with the old-time worship of the pueblos; accession 31,151. The value of Doctor Fewkes's <sup>material</sup> consists first, in the fact that the student who is to describe the collection was the one also who made it; secondly, while the modern pueblos have been well studied by the various members of the Bureau of Ethnology and we have excellent information also from Doctor Seler and others concerning the culture of ancient Mexicans and Central Americans, Doctor Fewkes has been able to trace out through this large number of examples the symbolism of the pueblo worship and to compare it with that of more cultured regions lying south. It forms, therefore, a connecting link between the study of modern pottery made by other students and the old culture of the architectural tribes in Middle America.



3. Indicate briefly the present condition of the exhibition series and the study series.

In response to the inquiry concerning the study and the exhibition series the following must be said. So far as limited space will allow the study series is in good condition. It is arranged partly ethnically and partly technically; especially are those objects which have been gathered in small quantities in the Orient placed ethnically, because there is in no case a sufficient amount of material to set up an all-round comparative study. Exceptions to this are found in the following sections into which a large number of ethnological specimens have been turned; Music, Foods, Medicine, Animal products, Fishing, Navigation, Transportation, Heating & Illumination, Metrics and Textiles. For the American series, the material being much more comprehensive, it has been possible to lay out certain large ethnic or culture areas and to regard the whole Western World as one enclave. In these <sup>areas</sup> comparative studies of considerable range can be made and, therefore, objects belonging to each culture class are placed together.

The exhibition series is not in its best condition at the close of the fiscal year, because several months of the Curator's time have been devoted to preparation <sup>of an exhibit for</sup> of the Nashville Exposition, and it has not been possible to give to this part of the collection its proper space and exhibition. <sup>The building of new galleries entirely stopped work on this series</sup> The Curator is not all satisfied with the space devoted to American ethnological exhibition and hopes that a great deal more room <sup>may</sup> ~~might~~ be devoted to this subject. Both series have been carefully guarded from moth and destruction and placed in such enclosure as would make the objects most accessible to those who are interested in particular studies.



4. State what progress has been made in administering upon the collections under your charge.

With regard to administering upon the collections under his charge the Curator will state that at the end of the fiscal year 1897, every specimen that has been referred to him has been catalogued, cleaned, poisoned ( when necessary,) and entered on the books and for a great many of the specimens cards have been made. The constant changing of specimens from the study to the exhibition series and to expositions has made it difficult for the Curator to keep every specimen that is on exhibition labelled. Labels are printed for many that are now shown, but owing to the want of a definite understanding of space and plan, the labels are not yet attached to the objects. An exception to the statement relative to cataloguing is to be made in the case of the Talcott Williams material from Morocco not yet formally turned over to ~~this~~ Curator.

The Secretary ought to know that in one particular there is a great desideratum in the Department of Ethnology. During a period of nearly thirty years a series of catalogues of specimens have been kept in which objects have been numbered consecutively without regard to their class. From time to time specimens have been exchanged, sometimes in large numbers, and in few cases gifts have been made to new museums, but care has not been taken to indicate in the catalogue that these specimens have been exchanged. Last year the Curator secured the assistance of Mr. Turnbull, and was able to commence a systematic comparison of the records of exchange in the Registrars office <sup>with</sup> the catalogues, so that the latter would indicate the destination of every specimen entered there. The work of Mr. Turnbull ought to be continued. It is a subject of uneasiness to the present Curator to know that as regards the coincidence of the specimens and the catalogue there is not a perfect agreement. It is recommended that a clerk be employed to complete the work in this direction.



5. What special investigations have you commenced, continued, or completed, upon material under your care, during the year?

The Curator finished up proof reading and publication on his monograph upon Travel and Transportation. Two other shorter papers on the distribution of a peculiar Belt Weaving Apparatus, and the distribution and influence of the Steel Bladed Knife upon the work of the North American tribes especially in Canada and in the Arctic regions. Every spare moment of the Curator's time has been devoted to studying specimens and collecting material for an exhaustive monograph of American Aboriginal Zootechny or arts connected with the animal world, including gathering, hunting, capture, trapping, domestication and breeding. Material for a large volume and many drawings have been gotten together and it is hoped that in the course of the coming year this work will be finished for the press.



6. What explorations (a) by members of the Museum staff, and (b) under other auspices, have resulted in enriching the collections under your care?

During the last summer Doctor J. Walter Fewkes and Doctor Walter Hough made explorations in the southwest; the account of these will be found in the Report of the Bureau of Ethnology, chiefly. Doctor Hough's services were in the function of assistant to Doctor Fewkes. Mr. James Mooney of the Bureau of Ethnology has done excellent service in collecting from the tribes of the Indian Territory.



7. What material from your department has been transmitted to students and investigators outside of the Museum during the year, and in connection with what special investigation was the material needed? It should be stated in each case whether or not the material has been returned to the Museum.

As to the transmission of material to students, it has not been the policy of the Department of Ethnology to send collections away, but an exception to this has been made in the case of our games and amusements, types of which are in the hands of Mr. Stewart Culin of the University of Pennsylvania, who is an expert in such matters. He has not yet returned them.

The Royal Scottish Museum has sent to the Curator photographs of objects, known to have been collected by Captain Cooke, upon which wrong labels had gotten, and the localities have been corrected by comparison with a much larger collection in our National Museum.



8. Give the names of any persons who have prosecuted investigations in your department during the year, and state the special aim of their studies.

The Curator is proud to report that investigations of great importance have been prosecuted in his <sup>th</sup> Department <sup>by</sup> during the past year; the following is a list of them:- A study in the pipes of the North American aborigines by Mr. J. D. Mc.Guire. <sup>1087</sup>  
A study in ornamentation among the Eskimo by Doctor W. J. Hoffman.  
Doctor Fewkes spent the winter in the Museum preparing an elaborate report of his researches in Arizona during the past two fiscal years. Mr. E. W. Nelson, who, 14 years ago or thereabout, spent three years in Alaska making collections and <sup>who</sup> was subsequently compelled to go to Arizona on account of ill health, returned to Washington and prepared, in my Department and with the aid of all my corps, a monograph on his collection, consisting of 7000 objects. So long had this work been delayed and so necessary to general ethnology was it that Mr. Nelson, who, with his own hands collected these rich treasures, should prepare an account of his explorations, ~~that~~ the Curator deemed it of the utmost importance to lay aside every other duty in order to put forward, as rapidly as possible, this ethnographic study. He is happy to report that the work was finished, and <sup>the</sup> manuscript is in the hands of the Bureau of Ethnology for publication. Hundreds of drawings and many photographic plates were carefully made in order to illustrate the monograph. It is also worth mentioning that with the cooperation of Mr. Nelson all of the specimens in our collection, kindred to those which he brought together, have received additional importance.

Under this head the Curator also desires to state that journalists, and students of ethnology in various parts of the United States and of the World have received every attention which it was possible for him to give in order that the public might be enlightened as much as possible.



9. Give a list of persons, other than contributors, who during the year have aided your department by their assistance and advice; and indicate briefly the nature of their services.

It would be impossible to name all the persons who have willingly served the Department of Ethnology during the past year, but especial attention is called to the services of Mr. Tappan Adney, journalist, who is working up the classification of canoes and traps according to forms; of Mr. Henry Balfour for studies in the Asiatic bow; of the Honorable John Daggett of California, on the material, dyes and technique of California Indian basketry; of Mr. Samuel J. Entrikin, Chester, Pennsylvania, for information concerning the structure of Eskimo dog harness; of Doctor J. Walter Fewkes for information concerning the industrial life of the pueblo Indians; of Doctor J. W. Hudson of Ukiah, Cal., on the variety of stitches used in California basketry; of Doctor W. J. Hoffman on the methods of mat-making among the Chippewa tribes; of Miss Elizabeth Lemke of Berlin, on the distribution of looms in Germany; of Mr. J. D. McGuire of Ellicott City, Maryland, on topics connected with the art of stone working; of Mr. E. W. Nelson of Mexico for many details connected with the technique of the Alaskan Eskimo; of Professor F. W. Putnam on his explorations in the mounds and stone graves; of Mr. Frederick Remington, journalist, on the peculiar canoes of the Kootenay River and of Mr. George B. Winton of San Luis Potosi, Mexico, for most valuable collections to illustrate the survival of ancient Indian arts among the modern tribes and that of old Spanish culture in the folk Mexican life. Doctor F. V. Coville, of the Department of Agriculture, has become personally interested in the botany of the aboriginal tribes. The identification of plants used by the Indians of our Western country for food, narcotics, clothing, houses and house life, textiles and timber is of the greatest importance to the study of ethnobotany.



10. Give a list of <sup>the</sup> papers published during the year by yourself and your official associates and collaborators, so far as the same are based upon Museum material. If any paper is based partly but not entirely upon Museum material, that fact should be indicated.

[Each notice for the bibliography should be accompanied by a full and complete citation (e.g., Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XV, No. 898, Aug. 4, 1892, pp. 179-219, pls. XIX-XXI, figs. 8-10), and also by a brief abstract of the paper.]

Mason, ( Otis T. ) "Primitive Travel and Transportation" Rep. <sup>Smithsonian Inst.</sup> <sup>(1897)</sup> U. S. National Museum, 1894, pp. 237 - 593; pls. I - XXV, figs. 1-260. This paper discusses going afoot, including the study of special costumes and appliances occasioned thereby; man as a carrier and in drawing loads.

Mason, ( Otis T. ) "The Antiquity of Certain Curved Knives" "Nature," London, April 8, 1897, p. 534. This paper describes the whittling knives introduced into America by whites, and seeks to find their distribution in the Old World.

Mason, ( Otis T. ) "Influence of Environment on Human Industries or Arts," <sup>Rep.</sup> Smithsonian Inst. <sup>(1897)</sup> Rep., 1895, pp. 639 - 665, pl. LXIX, figs. 2. This paper forms one of a series on environments, and seeks to show how surrounding nature affects and conditions all human activities. Environmental or culture areas are worked out for the Western World, (18 in number).

Mason, ( Otis T. ) "Eskimo Throwing Sticks," Nature, London, July 23, 1896, p. 271. This paper identifies a hitherto unknown form from Prince William Sound, Alaska.

Mason, ( Otis T. ) "The Pointed Canoe of the Kutenai River," Science, June 11, 1897, vol. V, p. 927. This paper compares the pointed canoe of the Kutenai river with those of the Amoor, in Asia.

Mason, ( Otis T. ) "Tape and Belt Loom from Italy and its Congeners in America," The Inventive Age, Washington, April, 17, 1897. This paper compares Zuñi and Chippewa looms with European forms.



Fewkes, J. Walter. The Sacrificial Element  
in Hopi Worship. Journ. Amer. Folk Lon.  
1897. Vol. X. No. XXXVIII. pp. 187-201



Fewkes J. Walter

The Chichonovi Flute Altars

Journ. Amer. Folk Lore, <sup>1896</sup> Vol. IX, No. XXXV

pp. 241-255. Pls. I. II.

An illustrated description of two altars  
erected by the Flute Society in one of  
the Hopi pueblos.



Fewkes J. Walter The Tusayan Ritual:

A Study of the Influence of Environment  
on Aboriginal Cults. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.,  
<sup>1897</sup>  
1895 (1896), pp. 683-700. Pls. LXX - LXXIII.

This ~~paper~~ article endeavors to show that  
the arid climate of Arizona has  
developed a ritual among Pueblos,  
in which ceremonies for rain and  
the growth of Corn are dominant.



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Fewkes, J. Walter, Tusayan Snake Ceremonies,  
16<sup>th</sup> Report of the Bureau of American  
Ethnology, 1897, pp. 266 - 311, Pls LXX - LXXXI.

Account of the Snake Dances at Oraibi,  
and the pueblos of the Middle Mesa  
of the Hopi



Howes, J. Walter, Preliminary Account of an  
Expedition to the Cliff Villages of the  
Red Rock Country, and the Tsurayan  
Ruins of Sikyatki and Anasazi,  
Arizona, in 1895. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.  
<sup>1897</sup>  
1895 (~~1896~~) pp. 557-588, Pls. XXV-LXVII. 3 col.

This article describes new ruins  
discovered in 1895, describes objects  
found in them, and discusses the  
symbolism on mortuary pottery.



Mason, ( Otis T. ) " Rochefort on the Carribeans," <sup>(New series)</sup> Science, N. Y., 1896, vol. 1V, p. 52. This paper calls attention to the mention of the Cushing Pile Dwellings in San Marco, Florida, as far back as 1666.

Mason, ( Otis T. ) " On Lifting Monoliths," <sup>(New series)</sup> Science, Aug. 21, 1896, vol. 1V, p. 228. This paper shows that all the great stones in human art were cut and put in place in pre-mechanical times.

Mason, ( Otis T. ) "On The Siberian Origin of Alaskan Iron and Copper Daggers," Verhandl. l. Berliner Gesellschaft f. Anthrop. &c., Berlin, 1896, XXVIII, p. 75. This paper compares the copper and steel double pointed and single pointed daggers of the southeastern Alaskan Indians with Bronze Age forms found in Siberia, and shows them to be identical.

Mason, ( Otis T. ) " Matto Grosso, S. Am., as a Mingling <sup>ant. erica</sup> Ground of Stocks," <sup>(New series)</sup> Science, Jan. 29, 1897, Vol. V. p. 194. This paper reveals the work of Doctor Hermann Meyer on the distribution of Eastern, Western, and South American bows and arrows, and their commingling in the middle ground of the Matto Grosso.

Fewkes, ( Dr. J. Walter. ) " Morphology of Tusayan Altars," Am. Anthropol., May, 1897, vol. X, pp. 129 - 145.

Fewkes, ( Dr. J. Walter. ) " Tusayan Totemic Signatures " ( illustrated ), Am. Anthropol., January, 1897, vol. X, pp. 1 - 11.

Fewkes, ( Dr. J. Walter. ) " Pacific Coast Shells from Pre-historic Tusayan Pueblos " ( illustrated ), Am. Anthropol., November, 1896, vol. IX, pp. 359 - 367, <sup>with illus.</sup>

Fewkes, ( Dr. J. Walter. ) " Two Ruins Recently Discovered in the Red Rock County, Arizona, " Am. Anthropol., <sup>IX</sup> August, 1896, vol. IX, pp. 263 - 283.

Hough, ( Dr. Walter. - ) " The Hopi in Relation to their Plant Environment, " Am. Anthropol., February, 1897, vol. X, pp. 33 - 44.

Mc.Guire, ( Joseph D. ) " Classification and Development of Primitive Implements, " Am. Anthropol., July, 1896, vol. IX, pp. 227 - 237.



11. Give a list of the new genera and subgenera, species and subspecies described in the papers referred to in the answer to question 10 ( e.g., *Gonodela rhabdophora*, W.J.Holland, (Lep.) Masai Land, Africa. Proc.U.S.Nat.Mus., XVIII, No. 1062, May 27, 1896, p. 256, pl. VIII, fig.5). If the type specimen is not in the National Museum, that fact should be indicated by the use of an asterisk.

Strictly speaking, technological material is not divided into genera and species, but in such classification depends upon structure and function. There is, however, a propriety in using these terms when speaking of ethnological or technological collections. In this sense much has been done in this Department to effect a proper classification of technological material and to relegate objects to their proper classes, localities and tribes. The Curator has discovered, for instance, that the so-called Zuni loom is not a native product, but was introduced from Europe; he has also discovered that sandals worn in Latin America and found in cemeteries in Peru and elsewhere are not American, but were introduced into Spain through the Moors and from Spain into America.

Mr. Mc.Guire has discovered in our large series of drills that the machine drills did not exist in America prior to contact with the white race.

The Curator has discovered that prior to the introduction of iron and steel, the Eskimo were not carvers in any sense to connect them with the Cave Dwellers of France; the work of correcting species, therefore, is more of the nature of identifying the proper locality and function of objects already in hand; this is going on always in this Department.

*From here* The Curator is very sorry to suggest to the Director that in the matter of collections in ethnology, if we except the pueblo region, Doctor Fewkes work and, perhaps, the work of Mr. Mooney during the past year, the National Museum is far behind Cambridge, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago in this matter. Each one of these public institutions has well equipped parties in the



field making large and systematic collections in North, Middle and South America. The Curator has often called attention to this fact and now repeats it with emphasis, that the old-fashioned desultory harvesting should come to an end, that a correct understanding of what constitutes valuable ethnological material should be thoroughly made out, that our collections as they now exist should be compared with this plan and the gaps and missing links discovered and pointed out; after that, no pains should be spared to procure this material. No one disputes that publication in ethnological lines is more active in Washington than in all other museums in our country put together, but we are falling behind rapidly in the matter of acquiring new material and in the matter of filling out and supplementing those already in hand. Now, in a publication made by this Curator in the Smithsonian Report for 1895, he has elaborated 18 culture areas in the Western World, divided the products of human activity into seven large classes, and has indicated in a table what constitutes the necessary data for a correct study of the ethnography of these culture regions. It would be very easy with the aid of a single clerk to prepare a comprehensive table with the material in the Museum for the purpose of indicating where we are rich and where we are poor, and to show what material should be secured and what regions should be explored in order that the National Museum may present a complete culture history of all the tribes that have lived upon the American Continent, so far as their arts are now accessible to us.



12. Please present any plans which you have in view for the development of your department.

The Curator will reserve what he has to say under this head until Mr. Holmes is installed as Chief Curator of Anthropology. It would be unseemly to anticipate any plans which he may have formed with reference to the future government of this division. This Curator, however, will most cheerfully cooperate with the Director and the Chief Curator in formulating new plans for the future progress and the well being of this Department.

In the Smithsonian Report for 1874, this Curator prepared, for Professor Henry, a statement concerning the founding of a Museum of Ethnology in Leipsic, based upon the labors of Doctor Gustav Klemm. It will be seen by reference to this paper that the Smithsonian Institution early adopted, as a motive in anthropological exhibition, a most comprehensive plan.

At the request of Professor Baird, the Curator prepared a pamphlet of directions for collectors of ethnological material for the Centennial Exposition, Philadelphia, in which the whole science of Anthropology is laid out in a scheme covering every type of objects that entered into the study of humanity and of human activities. This pamphlet was the foundation of the exposition of ethnological material in Philadelphia; was adopted by Doctor Rau in his discussion of the archaeology in the United States National Museum; <sup>and</sup> by Mr. Murdoch in his work on the Point Barrow Eskimo. Any scheme or general plan of study in anthropological sciences cannot depart very far from the classification there laid down. If the main concept in any exhibit be race, then for each race exhibited there ought to be sufficient material to set it forth in all the salient features of its daily life; if the concept be technology, then each art ought to be represented in its materials, its tools, its finished and unfinished products and its distributions in time and place. Complete-



ness in certain lines should have precedence over the accumulating of vast quantities of material whose chief excellence consists in numbers only.



## U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM.

Office of Assistant Secretary.

## DIVISION OF CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS.

## MEMORANDUM.

July 3, 1897.

To Professor Mason:

Replying to your memorandum of this date I beg to say that the accessions in your Department for the year ended June 30, 1896, were entered under 114 accession numbers. At that time the total number of specimens in your Department, according to our records, (not including the Pueblo collection) was 428,470.

Yours respectfully,

R. D. Geary  
Chief of Division.  
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The number of specimens on June 30, 1895, was  
425,642.



13.

- (a) Give the number of specimens received during the year. (This number should include deposits, and all other specimens received, regardless of their final disposition.)
- (b) Give the total number of specimens in your custody, after making allowance for deductions through waste material, exchanges and distributions.
- (c) Give the number of the last entries in your catalogue on June 30, 1896, and June 30, 1897.

Catalogue numbers, 176,809 - 176,704; entries, 895.

Specimens 1600.

Doctor Fewkes's collection, catalogue numbers, 156,350 - 158,176; entries 1826.

Specimens, 2234.

Total entries, 2721.

Total specimens, 3834.

1826  
895  
2721

1600  
2234  
3834