



He is painted here in a mixture of Indian and American garb, but dress him up in German clothes and full-blooded Mohawk Joseph Brant, aka Thayendanegea (1742-1807), would look at home on any street of Frankfurt or Munich, Germany. The celebrated chief was for some time a missionary among the Mohawk, translating the Book of Common Prayer and part of the New Testament into his Indian language. A Freemason, he aided the British in both the French and Indian War and the wars against American Indian leader Pontiac. Throughout the American Revolution he fought against the Americans, leading many Indian raids, although the Iroquois Confederacy, to which the Mohawk tribe belonged, was professedly neutral.

*Joseph Brant
the Mohawk*

REDISCOVERING THE FORGOTTEN WHITE ANCESTORS OF MANY AMERICAN INDIANS

BY J.S. SLAYMAKER

THE BARNES REVIEW published an article by John Nugent in its May/June 2000 issue regarding the discovery of a skull and some other skeletal fossil remains of an individual who has come to be known as “Kennewick Man.” Kennewick Man is said by scientists to be one of the most ancient human remains thus far unearthed in America and was radiocarbon dated to be about 9,400 years old. What has piqued the attention of many students of the subject is that the composition of the skeletal structure is without a doubt Caucasoidal rather than Mongoloid—or, to be more specific, those stocks of the Mongoloid race we have come to regard as the “native Americans” (or Amerindians, Eskimos and Aleuts). The national media is almost at a loss for words as, due to the unexpected discovery of such inconvenient facts, their own historically tainted doctrines of political correctness now hang in the balance.

Voluminous works in circulation today, although politically incorrect, set forth historically sound theories regarding the origins of the early Americans. As professional opinion is somewhat divided among historians, anthropologists and archeologists, controversy seems to be the ultimate rule of the day, both within and without the academic community.¹ The question here seems to be exactly where the first migrants came from and what other Old World voyagers joined them before the time of Christopher Columbus. Although this brief article is by no means exhaustive, and because such information is open to various interpretations, there is simply not enough evidence to satisfy everyone completely.²

Hubert Bancroft, for example, concedes that neither is there supportive evidence nor a possibility of stray ships of various nations and sporadic times and places which may have landed upon American coasts, nor will he concede to voyages specifically

EVIDENCE OF A MINOAN PRESENCE IN THE ANCIENT AMERICAS?



Now deceased epigrapher Barry Fell and others believe the great seafarers of the Minoan culture also made it to America well before the Vikings. They point to stones like the one here, which displays a script that closely resembles Minoan writing dating back to 2000–1000 B.C.

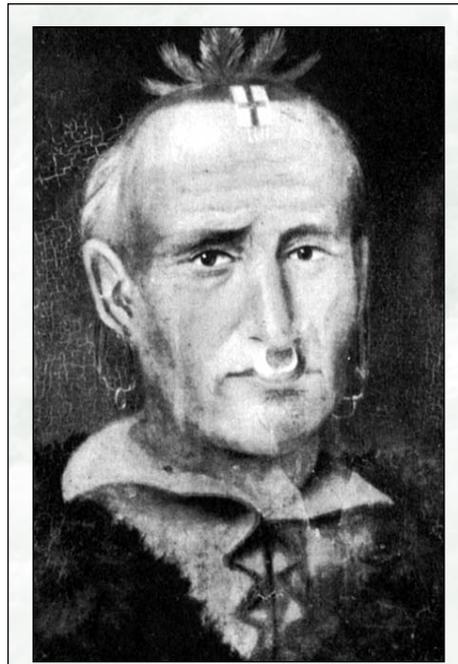
designed for such a purpose before Norsemen of the tenth century A.D. Yet he will contradictorily admit that it was extremely probable that there was some form of communication taking place by sailing vessel as the only means of travel across oceans and therefore the only means of intercontinental communication until well into the 19th century.³

The theory that Christopher Columbus was the first white man to set foot in the Americas should be immediately dispelled. Of course, everyone agrees that the Vikings were here earlier, although the extent of Viking contact with America continues to be hotly debated. But we also have records of Sumerians, Dravidians and Phoenicians going to sea in large, sturdy and well-rigged ships, far more advanced than those being constructed in the late 15th century A.D. by Europeans. Some of these records go as far back as 2100 B.C. Ancient tablets from Sumer tell of their monarchs sailing to the "Land Beyond the Western Sea," where Sumerian monuments and colonies were established.⁴ Yet scholars today are unsure on whether this could be a reference to ancient America.

One surety among scholars, though, is that considerable progress in the area of navigation was achieved in the ancient world. Contrary to popular belief, the idea that the earth was spherical in shape was in no way original with Galileo Galilei, but was known from a much earlier period.

Harvard Professor Barry Fell [see TBR's *Profile* on page 57] recounts an incident as told by Diodorus Siculus of Carthaginian settlements established in what now appears to be either South America or Cuba. According to Diodorus, Phoenician ships were blown far off course beyond the Pillars of Hercules (now known as the Strait of Gibraltar) and into the Atlantic Ocean. After several days of sailing to the west of Africa, they came upon an enormous island, which was not only fertile but watered by navigable rivers. Before long, the discovery was well known to both those of not only Carthage but also to the Tyrrhenians of Italy. Carthaginian settlements were founded here but were soon disbanded and prohibited from any further encroachment due to the official policies of Carthage.⁵

Some Chilean Indians have a tradition



This is an old portrait of a Chippewa chief, whose name is unknown. Were it not for his silver nose-ring and other exotic accouterments, he could be mistaken for a native of the British Isles. This is from the Royal Ontario Museum. The Chippewas or Ojibwas still live in fragments of the ancient homeland in Wisconsin and Minnesota, where once they held lakes Superior and Michigan at their disposal. They did very little farming but are said to have fished on a tremendous scale.

that claims their ancestors came from the west. Chippewa Indians of North America claim their ancestors traveled from a distant land in which "bad" people lived, that these ancestors had crossed a narrow lake, filled with islands, where the ice and snow exist continually. Algonquins teach similarly of a foreign origin and distant sea voyage. The tradition preserved by the Olmecs is that they are eastern peoples. The Yucatecs traditionally believe that they too were originally eastern people, having come only after passing through a sea which God made dry for them.⁶

French Commandant Jules Cauvet published a thesis from Algiers in 1930 with the idea of certain groups of Berbers having the same ethnic names as certain Indian tribes in America. Nowhere else in the world are such American names found outside of the Berber tribes themselves.

Ethnic names have at various times throughout the past been discovered by archeologists in their following of a migrating people. These names are often the final linguistic element to be abandoned after the people's language has either been forgotten or absorbed. More than one anthropologist has made the discovery of peoples inhabiting the Sahara Desert possessing similar traits to those of the American Indian. These similarities do not only include names and naming methods, but also include tribal groups who are designated by similar titles, only differing occasionally in prefix or suffix.⁷

Professor Fell notes that America has a long history of discovering—or rather rediscovering—ancient coins and other artifacts, but nearly as long is America's history of ignoring such finds. In the early days of the republic, our Founding Fathers and earlier men of learning such as Increase and Cotton Mather, both men of the clergy and founding presidents of Harvard University, studied the Latin language and Roman history; both being required subjects in order to earn any college degree. It was commonly understood among these men that such mementos were left as Roman ships sailed the Atlantic Ocean. After the evolution of the Columbus mystique in American textbooks (and the teaching of our children that until the year 1492 the world was considered to be flat), these discoveries were dismissed and further discoveries were ignored.⁸

It was not until after 1860 that the theory arose that American Indians were descended from Asiatics who migrated across the Bering land bridge. It has been as recent as 1940 that Norsemen were considered by establishment historians as never having ventured to America, and no European was thought to have visited America prior to Columbus.⁹

Needless to say, Professor Fell was not short on his own supply of critics. He has been accused of everything from unsupported speculation to a faulty knowledge of the Algonquian language, leading him to erroneous conclusions, not to mention defective analysis and interpretation. In some cases, he has even been accused of outright fraud, using inscriptions that have been proven to be fakes. Others say that his ideas are no more than well-worn but disproven themes which no respectable



American Indians are not a race of man but cover a vast gamut of racial types from very nearly Caucasoid, through what we think of as typical Plains Indian types, to Mongoloid types who could pass unnoticed in south China, and with occasional ventures into the Negroidal realm. A handsome man, Osceola (1804-38), the famous chief of the Seminoles, a tribe that split off from the Creek Indians, could probably pass for a Lebanese Arab. He led his tribe in their final war against the Anglo-Americans and put up one of the stiffest resistances Indians ever made. This rather imaginative painting is titled "Osceola's Method of Signing a Treaty" and depicts a dramatic incident in the great chief's refusal to make peace or cede any part of his tribe's land. The U.S. government responded by trying to exterminate the free Seminoles (Second Seminole War, 1835-42), but failed, although Osceola was perfidiously captured while under a flag of truce in 1838. The war cost thousands of lives and millions of dollars. To this day in Florida there are bands of Seminoles who claim, truthfully, that they have never surrendered to the United States. The Seminole language belongs to the Muskogean language family. The inset at right shows Osceola in more detail.



archeologist would take seriously.¹⁰ Yet in spite of such criticisms, Professor Fell invalidate these accusations against him, as reliable scholars in some well respected universities and museums have confirmed the validity of Fell's conclusions.¹¹

In fact, there have been some indisputable occurrences which have taken place in various parts of what we now call the United States as it was being settled. The Welsh clergyman Morgan Jones was traveling home to Roanoke, Virginia from South Carolina in 1660 when he fell captive to the Tuscarora Indians. He spent several months among these "white Indians" as they were known in the colonial era, preaching the Gospel to them. He personally believed that his life was spared because of his ability to speak Welsh, a language many of the Tuscarora Indians understood. Rev. Jones concluded that, due to

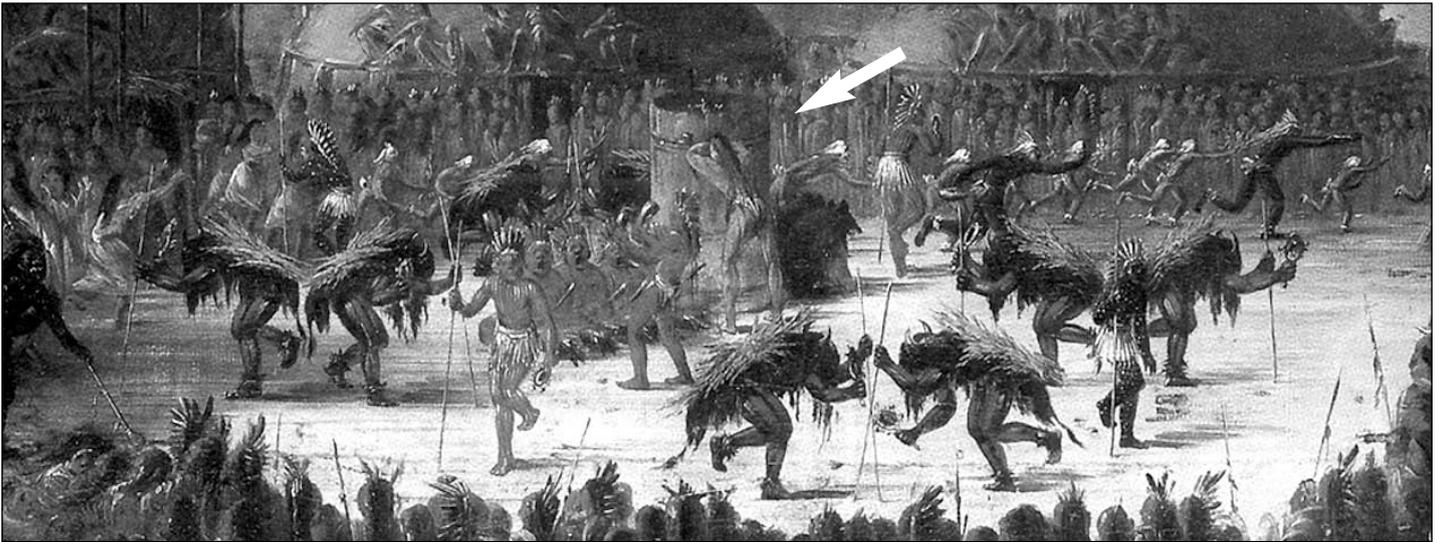
the fairness of their skin, color of their eyes, the circular manner in which they constructed their living quarters and the Druidical order of their religious life, they were of pre-Christian Welsh origin.¹²

In 1801 a certain Lt. Roberts recounted the story of having met with an Indian chief at Washington who spoke the Welsh language as fluently as that of any native of Wales. The lieutenant was informed of this being the ancient language of the "Asguaws," a people living some 800 miles northwest of Philadelphia. The Indian was himself unfamiliar with the land of Wales but said that it was traditionally believed among his people that their ancestors had come from a distant land that was far to the east, across the great waters. Stationed at a trading post in Illinois, a certain Capt. Davies had written that he had found it to be of a great surprise to find that several of

the Welshmen belonging to his company could readily converse with the Indians in Welsh. The Scottish Lord Monboddo, in the 17th century, wrote that many of the Indian tribes throughout Florida spoke a Keltic tongue.¹³

In May of 1773 Thomas Bullitt met with Shawnee Chief Black Fish on behalf of Virginia's "great white father," Lord Dunmore, in hopes that a treaty of peace might be negotiated over settlements that ran just south of the Ohio River, known as Can-Tuc-kee. Chief Black Fish stated that he neither had the power to negotiate over this land nor the power to grant permission

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Painter George Catlin reported that the Mandan Indians revered the 9-foot-tall wooden cylinder (visible in the center of this painting indicated by the white arrow) as symbolic of the “Big Canoe,” in which a legendary white man alone survived a great flood. In annual ceremonies, villagers followed this figure’s ancient directive to sacrifice edged tools used in the building of the great canoe to prevent a return of the devastating flood waters.

to settle it, for it did not belong to the Shawnee but the ghosts of the murdered “Azgens,” a white people from the Eastern Sea. He claimed that the forefathers of the Shawnee had long ago killed off the Azgens but were now in fear of their spirits.¹⁴

Some historians believe the Azgens mentioned by Black Fish may have been remnants of Sir Walter Raleigh’s lost colony at Roanoke, which disappeared without a trace in 1587.

Copper works in the Michigan area have proven to be one of the greatest puzzles in mining technology history. Approximately 5,000 ancient copper mine workings revealed on Lake Superior’s northern shore and on nearby Isle Royale date back to 4000 B.C. according to Nigel Davies, although this writer believes his date to be at least 2,000 years premature.¹⁵ According to radiocarbon testing (admittedly one of the more unreliable methods of dating), these operations took place between 2000 and 1000 B.C., which corresponds more closely to the bronze age in Northern Europe. Estimates are that 250,000 tons of copper were removed, although the exact location of where that copper was moved to remains a mystery. Because only a relatively small number of artifacts have been discovered in North America, it is believed that the vast majority of it was transported to Europe.¹⁶

Coins with Hittite glyphs have been found near Kanab, Utah.¹⁷ However, the most interesting artifact discovered, this writer believes, was in 1827 by a farmer in

Brazil. While in his fields he came upon a flat stone with the Greek engraving: “During the dominion of Alexander, the son of Philip, king of Macedon, in the 63rd Olympiad, Ptolemaios.” Below the stone were found two swords, a shield and a helmet. The handle of one of the swords bore a portrait of Alexander III; the helmet contained a design which represented the corpse of Hector as he was being dragged around the walls of Troy by Achilles.¹⁸ ❖

FOOTNOTES

¹Davies, Nigel, *Voyagers to the New World*, New York, William Morrow & Co., 1979, 7.

²*Ibid.*, 16-19.

³Bancroft, Hubert H., *The Works of Hubert Howe Bancroft*; Vol. 5, “The Native Races of the Pacific States,” San Francisco, A.L. Bancroft & Co., 1883, 5: 130,134.

⁴Verill, A. Hyatt, and Verill, Ruth, *America’s Ancient Civilizations*, New York, G.P. Putnam’s Sons, 1953, 105.

⁵Fell, Dr. Barry, *Saga America*, New York, The New York Times Book Club, Times Books, 1983, 72-73.

⁶Bancroft, Hubert H., *op. cit.*, 5: 22.

⁷Van Sertima, Ivan, *They Came Before Columbus*, New York, Random House, 1976, 252-54.

⁸Fell, *Saga America*, *op. cit.*, 27.

⁹*Ibid.*, 15.

¹⁰Davies, *op. cit.*, 153-56.

¹¹*Saga America*, *op. cit.*, 24.

¹²Spencer, Morton W., *The Missing Links; or The Anglo-Saxons, The Ten Tribes of Israel*, Hollis, New York, the Holliswood Press, 1901, 14.

¹³Bancroft, *op. cit.*, 5: 118-120, 122.

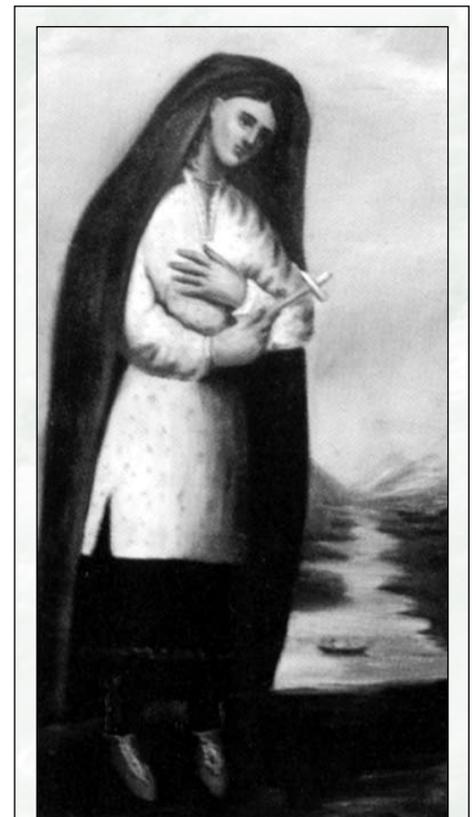
¹⁴Eckert, Allan W., *The Frontiersman*, Boston, Little & Brown, 1967, 70-74.

¹⁵Davies, *op. cit.*, 73.

¹⁶Fell, Dr. Barry, *Bronze Age America*, New Boston, Little & Brown, 1982, 261.

¹⁷Verill, *op. cit.*, 94.

¹⁸Bancroft, *op. cit.*, 5: 123.



Kateri Tekakwitha, a candidate for sainthood, was a Mohawk woman who in 1677 became the first Indian nun. So great was her piety that when she died, it is said, smallpox scars that had disfigured her face since childhood abruptly disappeared. It is believed by many she was a white Indian woman with black hair.