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5 THE ANCIENT INDIAN NATIONS

There was not a single red man in America unless painted such.

—Constantine Rafinesque

“Asia has been the country of fables, Africa of monsters, and America of systems for those who prefer opinions to reality.” So wrote Constantine Rafinesque in 1835 and readers will acknowledge that nothing has changed today.¹⁰⁹ Rafinesque’s “reality” will be examined in some detail in this chapter now that the “opinions” involving who is or was Indian have been called out in the last two chapters. His more eclectic views go far in explaining the true origins and staggering diversity of the Cherokee people.

Rafinesque starts by saying, “The systems and hypotheses of philosophy or ignorance upon America exceed all the Asiatic fables. A crowd of prejudices, false opinions and fantastic theories have been asserted on this hemisphere, often mistaking a small part of it for the whole. Some have declared all the Americans a red, beardless, naked and barbarous race, or a peculiar species of men. Others that they came out of the ground or from the clouds or over a bridge instead of boats or on the ice. Others that they are all Jews, or Malays, or Tartars. Lastly, even that Eden was here and Noah

¹⁰⁹ Constantine S.

, *The American Nations: Outlines of a National History, of the Ancient and Modern Nations of North and South America; Generalities and Annals* (Philadelphia: C. S. Rafinesque, 1836).

Free Google ebook: https://books.google.com/books/about/The_American_nations_or_Outlines_of_thei.html. We have taken the liberty to modernize Rafinesque’s spelling, punctuation and style and, in rare cases, his nomenclature and terminology, but for the most part have left his text to stand as published.

built the ark in America! All these systems, and fifty more brought forth by ignorance or pride, are based upon the most absurd proofs or a few isolated facts: while there are historical facts easy to prove that are neglected or forgotten.

"Thus it is a positive fact that many ancient nations of the east, such as the Libyans, Moors, Etruscans, Phoenicians and Hindus, had heard of America or knew nearly as much of it as we did of Australia and Polynesia a hundred years ago. It is as certain that America contained anciently, as even now, a crowd of distinct nations and tribes, some of which were quite civilized, perhaps as much as the Spaniards led by Columbus. The others were more barbarous, but not entirely savage. There were but few, if any, real savages in America dwelling in woods without social ties; most of them were wandering tribes of fishermen or hunters."

Rafinesque thus confirms what we have already seen. The roots and earliest remembrances of the Cherokee, Hopi and other tribes refer to rather advanced societies. The peopling of the Americas was not monolithic, not a single event, not a random, uniform dispersal of hunter-gatherers.

"There were formerly in America as now tribes of all complexions, as elsewhere: yellowish, olive, coppery, tawny, reddened, brown, incarnate or white, and even blackened or Negro-like. Tall and dwarfish men from 8 to 4 feet in size, called giants and pygmies—men with various frames, skulls and features, of all the sorts found in the eastern hemisphere. The Americans had long before Columbus large cities, built of stones, bricks or wood, with walls, ditches, temples, palaces, some of which were of immense size and population. One of them, Otolum, near Palenque, was 28 miles long, equal to Thebes, Babylon and Kioj [X'ian, the ancient capital of China] in size and monuments.¹¹⁰ Nearly all the ancient sciences and useful primitive arts were known in America, as well as commerce and navigation, symbolic and alphabetic writing and nearly all the Asiatic religions. The most civilized nations had even colleges and universities, canals and paved roads, splendid temples and monuments.

"It would be tedious to designate all that has not been told or been very unworthily noticed upon America. The whole of these outlines shall be comments upon the forgotten facts relating to this third of the world. Such as are found recorded by chance in one or few authors, scattered in a thousand volumes, unsought and unnoticed by nearly all the other writers.

¹¹⁰ Known anciently as Lakamha (Pelagian for "Water Big"), this Maya city-state in southern Mexico flourished in the seventh century. The ruins date from ca. 226 BCE and are extensive. By 2005, the discovered area covered up to 1 square mile but it is estimated that less than 10% of the total area of the city is explored, leaving more than a thousand structures still covered by jungle. Palenque receives more than a million visitors a year today.

“Respecting the chronology of the American annals, it is rather obscure and doubtful, but perhaps not more so than that of all ancient nations except the Chinese. It frequently ascends as far as the floods and even the creation. The most ancient dates are found among the Toltecs and Atlantic peoples, Mexicans or Aztecs, the Chibchas, Iroquois and Delaware. But it is difficult to make those dates agree among themselves or with our oriental dates. However, the American annals may be divided into great periods which can be admitted as certain, and resting points of history at peculiar epochs.”

Timetable of American Indian History

Rafinesque provides the following overview of pre-Columbian history and ventures absolute dates for its periods. This was the first time anyone published a credible Western Hemisphere chronology tied to Toltec and other chronicles.

1. Antediluvian period, beginning at the creation,¹¹¹ about 6690 years before Columbus according to the Toltecs [5198 BCE] and ending with the last cataclysm of Peleg about 3788 years before Columbus [2296 BCE].

2. Doubtful period, from that epoch till the reform of Toltec astronomy, 1612 years before Columbus [120 BCE]. This includes several subordinate periods and epochs. About 3100 years before Columbus [1608 BCE], settlement of the Lenapes in Shinaki or Firland or Oregon in northwest America [before 800 BCE]. About 2500 years before Columbus [1008 BCE], wars of the Towancas [northern nation of giants] and Iroquois, the hero Yatatan, in North America.

3. Certain period, from 1612 [120 BCE] till Columbus' arrival in 1492. Many lesser periods and epochs.

442 after Christ—End of the Teotihuacan kingdom.

492—Beginning of Atotarho dynasty of Iroquois.

558—Empire of Toltecs begins in Anahuac [Central Mexico] and lasts till 942.¹¹²

840—Beginning of the wars of Zipanas and Caris [Tiahuanacanos] in South Peru [Bolivia].

947—Foundation of the kingdom of Mayapan by Cuculcan in

¹¹¹ Rafinesque, like most of his contemporaries, believed that the earth was of a relatively young age. James Ussher, a seventeenth-century Irish divine, pronounced in a 1658 chronology titled *The Annals of the World* that God created the world precisely on October 23, 4004 BCE.

¹¹² The date 560 is on Artifact 13a standing for the foundation of Calalus, a Toltec kingdom in Western Mexico; see Donald N. Yates, *The Merchant Adventurer Kings of Rhoda: The Lost World of the Tucson Artifacts* (Longmont: Panther's Lodge, 2018), p. xix, 139.

Yucatan.

- 985—Discovery of America by the Norwegians.
- 1000—Conquest of Quito [Ecuador] by the Shyris.
- 1105—Beginning of the Incas' empire.
- 1322—Foundation of Tenochtitlan or Mexico City.

He divides the civilizations of the Americas into only three periods:

1. Beginnings about 5200 BCE to 2300 BCE.
2. Dark Ages about 2300 BCE to 120 BCE, including Algonquian invasion about 1600 BCE.
3. Historical Period 120 BCE to 1492.

In establishing this chronology, Rafinesque takes a positivist approach. He believes things are knowable. History is a science, one supported by ethnology, botany, biology, geology, linguistics¹¹³ and other ancillary disciplines. As the American jurist Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. would put it, "To be master of any branch of knowledge, you must master those which lie next to it, and thus to know anything you must know all." Rafinesque privileges New World recordkeepers, not Old World historians. He says:

I consider those of the Uskihs, Dinnis, Ongwis, Linapis, Shawanis, Cados, Natchez, Ozages, Atakapas, Apalachians, &c., as highly important for the annals of North America. The same may be said of the Mexicans, Zapotecas, Mayas, Toltecas, Chols, &c., for Central America. Of the Haytians, Cubans and Caribs for the Antilles. And in South America those of the Muyzcas, Cumanans, Tamanacs, Popayans, Peruvians, Chilians, Brazilians, Abipons, &c. (p. 59).

In the excerpts and paraphrases given below, we see the names of these tribes over and over. We will change as little as possible. So, for instance, Linapis becomes Lenape and Apalachians becomes Apalachites.

Rafinesque embraces what we would now call a social science approach to history. "Formerly," he says, "historians wrote chiefly chronicles of the empires, kingdoms and republics, which were often mere biographies of monarchs and chiefs, conquerors and tyrants. We begin now to think more of mankind and the nations. I shall follow this principle and trace at last a national history of America. This subject is so new that we have not even yet a good history of mankind in Europe, much less in Asia and Africa." He thus gives his work the title *The American Nations*.

¹¹³ See Vilen V. Belyi, "Rafinesque's Linguistic Activity," *Anthropological Linguistics* 39/1 (Spring 1997), pp. 60-74.

An assimilated, highly educated Jew from Constantinople, Rafinesque was the Howard Zinn of his day. He created a people's history of Native America. Kentucky, where he held a professorship, was the center of his vision. It was a fortunate place to live at the time, for he surveyed "by penible foot" some 2,000 mounds in the Ohio Valley that are now mostly leveled. He fell heir to the great store of knowledge represented by the Walam Olum, interviewing one of its keepers at nearby Shawneetown (perhaps Tecumseh's brother Tenskwatawa himself). He was given a copy of the Walam Olum on prayer sticks by a mysterious Dr. Ward, who had received the precious artifacts in exchange for medical treatment from a local Shawnee Indian.¹¹⁴ The region was at the crossroads of a large number of different Eastern tribes. Rafinesque described it in physical terms as "the Allegheny region stretching in woody hills and mountains from Maine to Alabama and Illinois, [with] the Ozark mountains and the whole of New England...detached portions of it."

Rafinesque characterized his sources for this sweeping tribal history as "a collection of over one hundred books of 6000 pages on the history of the earth and mankind whereof I avail myself for all my historical works...I have formed besides another collection of iconographic illustrations, maps, plans, monuments, views, portraits, alphabets, symbols, implements, and costumes which may serve for proofs and atlas [guide] of these works published or manuscript." He estimates that "this tellurian [world] iconography, chiefly American, consists already in ten great books or portfolios," and not having any hope of publishing them, expresses the wish "they might be deposited in a great public library where they might be consulted."

Rafinesque was celebrated in his day. He was the first to petition Congress to create the Smithsonian Institution, though he was never given any credit for it. He had many detractors. When he sickened and died in Philadelphia on September 18, 1840, most of his possessions were auctioned off or thrown out in the trash. Daniel Brinton, a virulent racist, and other patrician scientists stole his surveys and artwork and expunged his name from research.

Rafinesque started his synthesis of tribal histories with *Ancient History, or Annals of Kentucky* in 1824. By 1836 he was able to update his findings because of an increased understanding of the Walam Olum. We will assemble below a sort of revised "history of the American nations" taking these circumstances into account.

¹¹⁴ See *Old World Roots of the Cherokee*, pp. 58-73. Dr. Ward was hardly one of Rafinesque's "phantoms." The last manhunt for him appeared in the *Indiana Magazine of History* in 1987 and was inconclusive. Since then, however, the Federal census has become readily available online for the pertinent Indiana counties and year in question. I was able to find a Thomas Ward in the 1820 schedule for Vanderburgh County, which borders on the township of Cynthiana. See also Harry B. Weiss, *Rafinesque's Kentucky Friends* (Highland Park, N.J.: Privately printed, 1936).

About ethnic types, Rafinesque clarifies at the very outset:

... there were men of all sizes, features and complexions in this hemisphere before 1492, notwithstanding the false assertions of many writers, who take one nation for the whole American group. The Uskihs [Muisca?], the Puruays, the Peruvian Indians, the Chons, etc. were as white as the Spaniards—50 such tribes were found in South America—while many tribes of Chaco [Paraguay], the Manabis, the Yaruras, etc. were as black as Negroes. All the other shades of brown, tawny and coppery were scattered everywhere. There was not a single red man in America, unless painted such. Some tribes had scanty beards as the Tartars, Chinese, Berbers, etc., others bushy beards. The Tinguis or Patagons were 7 or 8 feet high, and the Guyanas only 4 or 5 feet.

He confesses that his “late researches have also greatly impaired the general belief of the Tartarian [Turkic] origin and western route of the Mexican nations.” He came to believe that the Toltecs, Olmecs, Mayas, Aztecs and Peruvian civilizations originated from Atlantic-facing cultures. In this he differed from the prevailing opinion of his time, such as that expressed by Thomas Jefferson. Rafinesque’s take on history is a radical departure from the attitudes of modern-day geneticists as well.

Atalans and Cutans

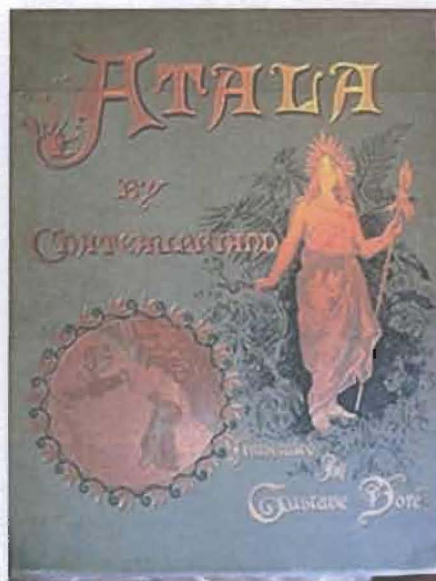
In the beginning were the Atalans, who came from the western Mediterranean and Atlantic-facing regions of the Iberian Peninsula, Brittany, the British Isles and Scandinavia, and the Cutans, who originated in the East Mediterranean, or Near East. Rafinesque believed that the ancestors of the first native nations came across the Atlantic in ships. Where did the term Cutan come from? It is probably the same as, or at least related to, Kittim. Kition was a famous settlement on the east coast of Cyprus. From the point of view of the Hebrews and others on the West Asian mainland, it was one of the most significant ports to the west. From this, the whole island became known as Kition and Kittim was applied to all the Aegean islands, even to the West in general. Josephus records that Cethimus, son of Javan, possessed the island Cethima, later called Cyprus, and from that the convention came about that all islands and the greatest part of the sea-coasts were named Cethim. The expression “isles of Kittim” occurs in Jeremiah 2:10 and Ezekiel 27:6.

What about the Atalans? “The nations which peopled the western shores of the eastern continent were the Cymmerians¹¹⁵ in Europe,” or Yamnaya

¹¹⁵ Rafinesque calls them Gomerians but they are the Cymmerians in today’s nomenclature, an Indo-European people of the Russian steppes. In the Biblical table of nations used in Rafinesque’s day, Gomer was a descendant of Japheth, a son of

peoples of the steppes, as we would say today, "and the Atlantes,"¹¹⁶ or Mediterranean peoples, in Africa and Iberia. "The Atlantes formed a powerful empire in North Africa, which gave laws to many nations, such as the Libyans, the Phoenicians, Numidians, the Berbers, the Darans of Northwest Africa, the Garamanni, the Corans or Guanches or Canary Islanders of West Africa and others."

When the French author Chateaubriand published his book remaking the image of noble savage in 1801, he named the female protagonist Atala. With his work people began to want to have American Indian ancestry. It was as though his female protagonist were to be called America. She was half white and Christian and fell in love with the fullblood Natchez named Chactas. In that parable you have the two strands which Rafinesque, about the same time, wrote about.



Atala was a runaway bestseller in the 1800s.

Noah, and one of his sons in turn was Ashkenaz, traditionally identified with the Germanic peoples of Eastern European Jewry (Gen. 10:2). Gomerians can be identified with fair-skinned ancestors of Celts, Goidels, Galls, and Gaels (all related words). According to an Ethiopian view of history derived from the Amharic Book of Jubilees, "A party of Gaelic-speaking Japhethites (who were of lighter complexion), and Canaanite speaking Hammites (who were dark skinned) made a surveying expedition to the New World soon after this [fall of Tower of Babel]. . . [as] is evident from the petroglyphs found on Turkey Mountain near Tulsa, present day Oklahoma. There, exactly on the 36th parallel, is found the Canaanite word Pyaa' and above it, the old Celtic word Guin. Both words signified the same in both languages: "White" or "whites." In other words, this site was to serve as the boundary marker between the "white" nations of Japheth to the north, and the darker nations of Ham to the South. The word Gwyn still means white or fair in Welsh today. The Welsh people call themselves Cymru and identify as direct descendants of Gomer.

¹¹⁶ Literally, "giants, people of the earth," in Greek mythology, supposed to live in the Western Mediterranean around Mt. Atlas.

We have ancient DNA from skeletons found in various Iberian sites dating from between 1,984 and 2,850 BCE. Included are sites called La Magdalena, near Madrid, Paris Street in the town Cerdanyola, nine miles north of Barcelona, and El Virgatal, north of Burgos. This fortuitous selection provides a representative picture of the genetic diversity in the Iberian Peninsula at a time when the Mesolithic population, at least on the female side, was the same as it had been for millennia. According to archeogeneticists in David Reich's laboratory at Harvard University, the mitochondrial lineages are: K1a4a1, K1b1a1, K1a1b1, H45, U5b2b, K1a1b1, K1a+195, K1a24a, L1b1a, T2b3, U5b1i, H1, U5b1i, U5b1f1a, T2b3+151, U5b2b3, H4a1a+195, K1a1b1, K1a1b1, K1a4a1, U5b1c1, HV0b, U5b3, X2b+226, pre-H103, K1a4a1, K1a2a, U5b1i, H1, H1q, U5b3, H1ax, H1t.¹¹⁷ We can see that this random sample of Iberians in the Copper Age approximates the frequencies and diversity of anomalous Cherokee haplogroups, as given in Chapter 2. U, for instance, dominates over or at least is equal in importance to H, and there are many Near Eastern types like K and T. The time period for the transfer of these lineages to the New World in a single seaborne event or related series of events would appear to be ancient, not recent. The pattern of haplogroups does not fit that of post-1492 Spanish, French and English intrusion into the Southern Highlands.

"In Europe," says Rafinesque, "the Cymmerians divided into many nations; those that occupied the sea shores were—1st. the Pelasgians, scattered from Greece to Ireland, under the names of Tirasians in Thracia, Arcadians in Greece, Laestrygonians in Sicily, Cenotrians &c. in Italy, Tubalans in Spain, Cunetans or Henetans in France; Fermurians in Ireland, &c.; —2nd. The Celts [K-Celts], or Pallis [P-Celts], who became Hellenes or Ionians in Greece, Meshekians, Ausonians and Umbrians in Italy, Siculs in Sicily, Gaels in France, Hesperians and Goidels in Spain, Direcotians in Ireland, Cimbri in Scotland, Feans or Feines in England, &c.; —3rd. the Sacas, who became Magas in England, Saxons and Rasins in Germany, Etruscans or Tuscans in Italy, Sicanians in Sicily, &c.; —4th. The Garbans, who became Cyclops [literally "ring-eyed"] in Greece and Sicily, Ligurians in Italy, Cantabrians in Spain, Basques in France, &c.

"All those nations were intimately connected in languages and manners. The Pelasgians¹¹⁸ were bold navigators and ventured to navigate from Iceland to the Azores and Senegal. The Azores, Madeira, Canary and Cape Verde islands were then united in one or more islands, called the Atlantic Islands, which have given the name to the Atlantic ocean, and were first populated

¹¹⁷ I. Olalde et al, "The Beaker Phenomenon and the Genomic Transformation of Northwest Europe," *Nature* 555 (2018), pp. 190-96.

¹¹⁸ Pre-Greek peoples including the Armenians, Thracians and Phrygian tribes. They may also include the Phoenicians, Minoans or Berbers.

by the Darans [from the Maghreb] and Corans¹¹⁹ or Western Atlantes. Iceland was called Pushcara¹²⁰ and was not settled, owing to the severe climate and awful volcanoes.

“Numerous revolutions and invasions took place among those nations, until at last the Atlantes of Africa, united them all by conquest in one powerful empire, which extended over North Africa, Spain, France, Italy, part of Greece, Asia, &c.; and lasted many ages under several dynasties and emperors.

“It was during the splendor of this empire that America was discovered by some bold navigators who were led by the trade winds to the West Indies in a few days from the Atlantic islands. They called them Antila Islands, which meant before the land, and America was called Atala or Great Atlantes. Returning to the Azores by a northeast course, they extolled the new country, and a great settlement was soon formed in Haiti and the neighboring continent by the Atlantes.”

Puerto Rico's Priceless Treasures

Evidence for real historical events linking the Old and New World comes from the Nazario Collection, or Library of Agüeybaná. So named for a Taino national hero, these engraved greenstones are some of the oldest and most valuable artifacts in America. They originally numbered around eight hundred and their story is fascinating. An old woman close to death invited the village priest of Guyanilla on Puerto Rico's southern coast to her hut in the mountains and told him of a treasure belonging to the ancient inhabitants of the area her family had been guarding for centuries. She gave Fr. José María Nazario y Cancel instructions as to where the treasure was buried, hoping the artifacts would be kept for posterity just as her family had preserved them for ages. The priest followed her instructions and headed deep into the mountains, eventually reaching a pit covered by a large stone, just as the woman had told him. When he removed the stone, he found hundreds of greenstone statuettes.

Since that day, the trove has suffered losses, disfiguration, dispersal, theft and repeated moves. All the time, it has been under constant attack from those who do not accept its value. In 2019, some of the stones traveled to Israel, where laboratory professionals tried to figure them out and date them from carbon residue in the cracks of the stones.

Modern-day scientists apparently do not read many books published before their lifetime. These Taino antiquities are old news. They were reported by scholars on Haiti as early as 1787, over two centuries before the

¹¹⁹ Kora, Senegalese, West African, possibly the Arabic-speaking founders of the Coree in South Carolina.

¹²⁰ Sanskrit elements *prush* “ice, frost” + *ku* “earth, land.”

University of Haifa tried to apply a “use-wear analysis” to make them yield their secrets (to no avail). Rafinesque knew of them because he was the first editor of Taino chronicles recorded around 1498 by the Spanish friar Ramón Pané.¹²¹ Rafinesque reconstructs 77 events, the last being a war in 1490 in Cuba, shortly before the arrival of Pané’s boss, Christopher Columbus. Throughout, Taino storytellers speak of certain of their founders coming on bird ships from the east.¹²² They equate caves with the hulls of ships. Admixture with pre-existing, neighboring people is recounted as marrying “crabs,” that is beastly humans. Other episodes in this national epic tell of migrations from South America, Central America and into North America. A cardinal event (p. 181), as Rafinesque reconstructs it, was the first colony in America from a Mediterranean people, called Hi-Auno or Ionians, in 1658 BCE. This date comes from Toltec sources and corresponds to the eruption of a volcano on the island of Thera thought to mark the sudden collapse of Minoan or Cretan civilization according to mainstream western historians.

Rafinesque describes the stone monuments of the first colonies in the Caribbean as follows: “... in the mountains of Limbé [in Haiti] engravings of human figures on a serpentine rock; besides many sculptures in Cave” (p. 165). According to him, Haiti eventually had traces of 44 distinct tribes (which he lists on pp. 212-4 of his long treatise). Chapter VII of his book *The American Nations* is devoted entirely to the “Haytian” or Taino language. *Taino* means male noble and *Taina* female noble in the Pelagian (or Pelasgian) language spoken by these Sea Peoples. It may represent the article *ta* “the” plus *Hi-Auno/a* (“Ionian”). Haiti and Puerto Rico and the Antilles were called the Blessed Isles or Fortunate Isles in the Old World.

Here's what Rafinesque has to say in unedited and unaltered form about what he interprets as three trans-Atlantic voyages in the second millennium BCE, based on Fray Ramón Pané’s text:

¹²¹ See Chap. VI, “Haytian Annals,” pp. 162-215. There is hardly any resemblance between Rafinesque’s “Annals” and the academic text reconstructed by Arrom and Griswold in Fray Ramón Pané, *An Account of the Antiquities of the Indians*. A New Edition, with an Introductory Study, Notes, and Appendices by José Juan Arrom, trans. Susan C. Griswold (Duke UP, 1999). Rafinesque regards his sources as important monuments of Taino culture. Today’s experts arrogantly read Fray Ramón’s collection as fables and myths of a primitive people without any historical value. The original manuscripts are now lost. Supercilious modern anthropologists reject large parts of the collection as fraudulent, incoherent or nonsensical. Where have we seen this before?

¹²² On bird-head devices and Sea Peoples, see Shelley Wachsmann, *Seagoing Ships & Seamanship in the Bronze Age Levant* (College Station: Texas A&M UP, 2018), p. 177.

26th Event. The dynasty of Giona or Hi-Auna begins to rule over the men of Caziba or royal caves in Cauta. This family of rulers or Cazics became famous afterwards as we shall see, as leaders of tribes to America. We can easily perceive here the ancient Pelagian tribes of Ionia and Aones. Hi-Auna means the-Aones. It was this dynasty or people that sent colonies to America: Oviedo says this happened in the time of Hesper 12th king of Spain, about 750 years after the flood, or 1658 years BCE. He deems the settlers Hesperians or Cantabrians. The root is Ona, solar name of Libyans.

27th Event. Vagoniana, a ruler of the Hi-Auna, went fishing from the cave and became a bird or nightingale who crossed the sea and settled the island Mathinino (Martinico) with a people of women. Dangleria. His wife in the sea gives him two sons which became jewels Ziba and Guanin marble and metal. This is a positive voyage over the Atlantic. Whenever we meet tribes of birds in ancient history, they always mean travelers and colonies and often passage over the sea in sailing boats, compared to birds. The first ships of the Scandinavians and Europeans seen in North America were called birds by the natives. V and B interchange in the Haytian language as in Greek ; Va-gon-iana, thus means Father - Solar-Iana. His people are called women, because unwarlike fishermen, or the Amazon tribe. Martinico was the first island settled by them: it bears the name of Matinino in Ramon and was thus called yet in 1492. Garcia mentions the two sons and jewels.

28th Event. Guagu-Giona, king of Caziba, sent Jadruvaba out of the caves to collect the holy herb Digo in order to purify and wash the body, but he was changed by the sun into a singing bird Giakuba-Bogiael (the-singer bird-divine) and never returns. We have here a second voyage by sea in a bird, and a contention with a solar people, caused by a trading voyage to procure some American commodity, Indigo probably, which is identical with Digo. Jadru-vaba or the father of Khadru, must be a new colonist. Khadru has hardly any analogies in America; but Giahuba in which he was changed has some. It appears analogous with the Yaoy and Shebaoy, two Arawak tribes of Guyana, and thus Khadru might be the Arawak themselves, same nation with the Haitians once, as the languages prove, although extending to Tucuman and Patagonia. The name of Aruac or Aruagas was inexplicable: it may refer to this origin, or to the Rocou, the red paint used by them. But Aruac may also mean Aluac ; akin to the Labuyu of the Caribs, their vassals, and the Aluez vassals of the Natchez nation. . . Guagu-Giona, irritated that Jadru-vaba does not return, leaves the cave of Caziba in search of him and went with men and women to the island Matinino, where the women were left, while the men went to the land of Guanin. This is the third passage of the Atlantic unless that of Vagoniana only mentioned by Dangleria and Garcia be the

same ; but they are likely to be successive tribes of Ionas. That all the women should be left in Martinico is a fable, meaning that the weakest or fishing tribes settled there or in the islands, while the warriors went to the American continent, called Guanin, which has several meanings, land of Guanas or lizard men, or land of metals. It became afterwards the name of a peculiar metal formed by the natural or artificial amalgam of 18 parts gold, 6 silver, and 8 copper and a tribe assumed the name. Guana or Guanós was the name of a large nation of South America, perhaps come from the Guana of the Canary islands but slightly related to the Arawaks by the languages, yet perhaps akin: it was spread east of the Andes, between the two tropics.

So, Sea Peoples settled on Hispaniola after 1658 BCE. If Rafinesque is right we also have records of oceanic travels of the Arawak and Guyana tribes of South America. The motives for deep-sea voyages throughout human history are invariably metals and trade. These early navigators are recognized by plank-sewn sailing ships with bird prows. Their civilization is advanced. It's ironic that modern-day scholars refuse to see any of this. According to Rafinesque, Tainos seeded all the tribes of the Allegheny and East Coast regions of the U.S. They continued to bring Caribbean tribes to the region.

The script on the figurines is a Libyan or early Iberian Bronze Age writing system perhaps influenced by a Semitic alphabet like Phoenician, akin to Tifinagh. This alphabet survives among Berber people. Puerto Rican authorities showed samples to a European Semitic scholar, who verified the script's affinity, but when they revealed it was from the New World the phone line went dead. There was no further communication. Even to entertain such a notion is taboo for 21st-century scientists and academicians.



Greenstone goddess figure from the Nazario Collection.

To be sure, archeologists and anthropologists have hang-ups, but who would have guessed they can't tell a male from a female? It is almost laughable to realize that the corpulent figure with richly articulated woven garment is the Mother Goddess, not a male god or hero as the highly educated crowd would have it.

This deity was worshiped as the supreme god in most prehistoric civilizations in Europe and West Asia. The Mother Goddess has been brought to life in extensive publications by UCLA archeologist Marija Gimbutas. The Goddess Religion prevailed Europe-wide until

invasions by steppes peoples after 3000 BCE. The female religion survived in certain Aegean and Mediterranean cultures after that, including Cretans, Cypriots, Berbers, Aegean Greeks, Anatolians, Maltese, Sardinians, Iberians and numerous New World societies. Ships, caves, mounds and mines were all consecrated to the Goddess. Thus, for instance, the permission of the Goddess was requested in a prayer before entering a mine. Thus also goddesses, particularly Tanit with the Phoenicians and Athena with the Greeks, protected seafarers.¹²³ Mounds were sacred to the Goddess, as the dead were returned to the earth composing them. Women paid their respects at mound and cave sites sacred to the Goddess, hoping that the clan ancestors would reincarnate one of themselves as a child in a pregnancy.¹²⁴

The choice of stone for carving ritual objects was often serpentine, or greenstone, representing the Goddess's rule over the earth, waters and all

¹²³ On the Old Europe archeology of the Goddess religion, see Marija Gimbutas, *The Language of the Goddess* (London: Thames & Hudson, 2006). On its replacement by Indo-European male-oriented sun cults, from Egypt and Israel to Anatolia and India, see Merlin Stone, *When God Was a Woman* (Orlando, Harvest, 1976). On the continuing implications of this watershed in human history, see Riane Eisler, *The Chalice and the Blade: Our History, Our Future* (New York: Harper, 1988). On the memories and vestiges of the Goddess religion among the Cherokee, see Yates (2012), "Chapter 8. She Who Walks with the Little People," pp. 106-117.

¹²⁴ According to this reading of history, it was the Sea Peoples and their related cultures in Thrace, Phrygia, Armenia, Illyria, Greece, Anatolia, the Aegean and around the Mediterranean (Minoans, Libyans, Berbers, Sicels, Iberians, Phoenicians) who brought mound building and forms of matriarchal social organization to America. See Heide Goettner-Abendroth, *Geschichte matriarchaler Gesellschaften und Entstehung des Patriarchats, vol. III: Westasian und Europa* (Stuttgart: W. Kohlhammer, 2019), esp. Chap. 7; id, *Matriarchal Societies: Studies on Indigenous Cultures across the Globe*, trans. Karen Smith (New York: Peter Lang, 2013), esp. §11.1, p. 211ff. on the Arawaks and chapter 14 on the Adena, Mound Builders and Moon-eyed People (astronomers). Goettner-Abendroth points out that while the mounds of the Ohio Valley may be the best known, there are also mounds on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Mexico, all through Central America and at the mouth of the Amazon River. On mounds in the Sea People's homeland in the Balkans, which represent the swelling or impregnation of the Earth, see Stanley Casson, *Macedonia, Thrace and Illyria: Their Relations to Greece from the Earliest Times Down to the Time of Philip, Son of Amyntas* (Westport: Greenwood, 1971; orig. pub. Oxford UP, 1926), pp. 120-27. One of the larger known mounds in Old Europe is Kinda, a Copper Age kurgan, or burial mound, near the town of Kikinda in in the northeastern part of Vojvodina, Serbia. The pyramid in Visoko in central Bosnia and Herzegovina touted by Semir Osmanagić has been claimed to be the largest human-made ancient pyramid on Earth, and to date from 12,000 years ago. It has never been excavated or even archeologically probed. See Colin Woodward, "The Mystery of Bosnia's Ancient Pyramids," *Smithsonian Magazine* (Dec. 2009): <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-mystery-of-bosnias-ancient-pyramids-148990462/>.

growing things. Quetzalcoatl, the carrier of the arts of civilization in Mesoamerica, is identified with “feathered serpents,” or ships. His mythic birth is as the son of greenstone. Rafinesque gives the name of the supreme female god of nature in the Taino language as Attabei, Attabeira or Atabex, which he translates as Unique Being.¹²⁵



Bell-shaped Goddess with uplifted arms from Copper Age Cyprus. Limosol District Museum inv. No. 580/8.

Like the Great Goddess of the Old World, the Tainos' Atabey has three aspects, those of nurturing mother, nubile daughter and old crone. Like the mother of Quetzalcoatl, she conceives without a consort or spouse and her twin sons are the opposing gods of war and peace.¹²⁶

So it would appear that the first people who colonized the New World came in the mid-second millennium BCE from Spain or the Canaries. They traveled the same Canary Current as Columbus. The Taino chronicles describe many other travels, dynasties and tribal origins, but since they pertain primarily to the Caribbean and South America, we will leave them for others and return to the thread of our narrative on Eastern U.S. aboriginal history.

¹²⁵ *The American Nations*, p. 166. The language seems to be Berber or an Afro-Asiatic type.

¹²⁶ A classic depiction of the Great Goddess' appearance and magical powers occurs in the Berber Latin author Apuleius' novel *The Golden Ass*, which is discussed in *Old World Roots of the Cherokee* (Chapter 8, "She Who Walks with the Little People," pp. 114-17.

An object in our possession ties together literally the Old World and the New. It is an ancient coin fastened to an Indian shell bead necklace. Most numismatists identify the figure on the obverse as simply a sea-goddess but this is no ordinary goddess. When I showed the coin to Gloria Farley in 2001, she immediately recognized Tanit, “the principal goddess of Carthage in North Africa...one of the most traveled deities of all.” In addition to Georgia, where my keepsake came from, this standard Tanit appears on a coin found in Arkansas depicted in Farley’s survey of the “profusion of places in which her images have been found.” To judge from a short list of Tanit images in American rock art and on Carthaginian coins, the Phoenicians left tokens of their presence in Vermont, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma, Kansas, Tennessee, Ohio, Colorado, Nevada, California and Louisiana.¹²⁷



Carthaginian coin with Sea Goddess and dolphins on one side and emblems of Carthage, a horse and palm tree, on the other.

¹²⁷ See Gloria Farley, “The Transmigrations of Tanit,” in *Across before Columbus? Evidence for Transoceanic Contact with the Americas prior to 1492*, ed. Donald Y. Gilmore and Linda S. McElroy (Edgecomb: NEARA, 1998), pp. 237-44. See also her chapter, “The Coincidence of Coins,” in the book *In Plain Sight*, pp. 273-84.

Iberian Peoples at Ground Zero

In December of 2019, Richard Thornton wrote to me of an astounding discovery he made with remote infrared scanning technology on a site in North Georgia known as the Fritchey Mound near where he lives. It is the perfect symbol for Old World “Indians” gradually supplanted and replaced by New World “Indians.”

Reports Thornton: “While studying the Amys Creek Archeological Zone in northwestern Habersham County, Georgia during the autumn of 2019, I saw something odd in the infrared imagery. There was the footprint of a large rectangular structure with a semi-circular apse. It’s called a ‘Roman basilica’ by architectural historians, but the form actually dates back to the Late Bronze Age in the western Mediterranean Basin. It’s most commonly found in the Iberian Peninsula, Balearic Islands (Majorca), Sardinia, Corsica and western Sicily. What the heck?”

Thornton subsequently verified that the bottommost image was an Iberian-style sun temple from the Late Bronze Age underneath “a typical diamond-shaped Itza Mound.” Over the Itza Mound had stood, first, a rectangular mound typical of Etowah Mounds II and then a huge, oval Apalache mound on top of everything. In 1993, the Georgia DOT scrapped off the three mounds to use as landfill for a highway project, exposing the footprint of the first mound and the rectangular temple.

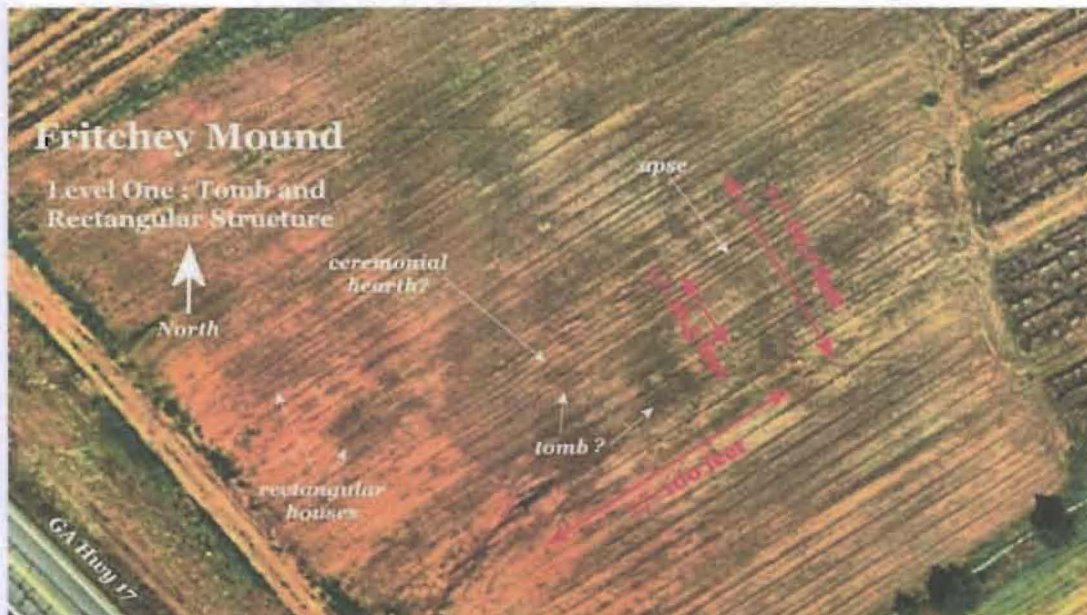
Stratigraphy thus proves the first “Indians” came from Europe and the Mediterranean about three thousand years ago, bringing a religion of temples and agricultural calendrics. Over the ages, they blended with newcomers into New World types who built mounds. These enter our post-Columbian worldview as Creek Confederacy tribes.

Thornton notes, “A few basilica structures are much older than the Roman and Byzantine buildings. There is a basilica in a former Phoenician colony in Cádiz on the Mediterranean coast of Spain which dates from the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age. It is very similar in size and plan to the footprint of the rectangular building under the Fritchey Mounds. Just recently, a similar Sun God temple was found in Cuenca, Spain. Much better preserved, it was definitely built by a people who lived in Spain prior to being driven out by the Iberian invaders around 400 BC. This temple may be much older than 400 BC.”¹²⁸

The take-away? An Old World temple-building culture (which Rafinesque identifies with Atalans and Cutans) predates a New World mound-building

¹²⁸ “What the Heck Is a Late Bronze Age Iberian Sun Temple Doing Under an Appalachian Mountain Mound?": <https://apalacheresearch.com/2019/12/04/what-in-the-heck-is-a-late-bronze-age-iberian-sun-god-temple-doing-under-an-appalachian-mountain-mound/>.

culture (which Thornton calls Creek or Itza, and Refined Iztacans, Asiatic tribes from Mexico). Stratigraphic levels tell the whole story. There is no way to dismiss the evidence that Old World peoples preceded Asiatic "Native Americans." They came from Iberia in the Late Bronze Age, a date not in conflict with the Taino records discussed above.



Infrared imaging of the Fritchey Mounds in Habersham County, Georgia, revealed an underlying rectangular structure that predated them all. Courtesy Richard Thornton.



Richard Thornton's reconstruction of the structure at Level 1.

First Indians Were Europeans

Rafinesque's history continues: "The Atalans, or American Atlantes, spread themselves through North and South America in the most fertile spots, but the marshy plains of the Orinoco River in Venezuela, Guyana and Brazil, Maranon [northern Peru], Paraguay, and Mississippi as well as the volcanoes of Peru, Chile, Quito, Guatamala and Anahuac prevented them from settling those parts of the continent. Many of the subjects of the Atlantic empire, such as the Tubalans,¹²⁹ Cantabrians, Cyclops and Cunetans [Canaanites], follow the Atalans in America and become the Cutan nations."

"It is difficult to trace the American nations who have sprung from those early settlers, owing to the numerous revolutions and intermixtures which they have undergone. Nor is it my intention to give now a complete genealogy of the Atalan and Cutan nations. I must confine myself to North America or even Kentucky.

"The Allegheny mountains were called Localoca [White Mountains]. Beyond them the country was called Great White Land, (Mahasweta-Bhumi of Hindu traditions) and it became the seat of a great empire or the Western Atlantic Empire. This included of course Kentucky, but extended from Lake Ontario in the north, to the Mississippi. The Atlantic shores called Locuta [White Places],¹³⁰ or Lachacuta [Seaside Places] were not settled owing to their arid soil, lately emerged from the sea. This western empire may be called the Atalan empire.

"The country watered by the Ohio and its branches was the center of the Atalan empire, and its metropolis stood somewhere on the Ohio. It was divided in several provinces, and ruled by a powerful monarch of the Atlas family. The Atlantic monarchs of Africa, Europe, Atlantia and Atala, often contended for supremacy, and the Atalan emperors obtained it once. Their dominion extended from Atala to Syria. They were repulsed in Greece and Egypt. The African emperors were acknowledged generally as lords paramount, but they resided in Europe as often as in Africa and had to contend against the Titans, a branch of their family reigning in the Alps.

¹²⁹ Descendants of Tubal (Gen. 10:2) believed to have populated the region south of the Black Sea from whence they spread north and east.

¹³⁰ Connected perhaps with Greek *leukos* "white" and Mycenaean *dleukos*. An important homeland for the Cherokee was on the White River in Indiana. Celtic and Roman peoples called the northeastern U.S. Albania, which means White. The Vikings called it Vitramannaland, White Man's Land. It has been argued that white was given as a name to the Appalachian or Allegheny Mountains because of their snowy tops, but they were not invariably covered with snow. The same topographical argument cannot explain White River.

“There were successively many Atlantic emperors and monarchs, bearing the names of Ian, Atlas, Acmon, Ouran, Ilan, Silvan, Sanu or Satur,¹³¹ Japet or Yudish, Titan, Neptune or Naphtur, Plut, Evenor, Oanes, Derceto, Tritan, Muth, Lucip, Rahu, &c. in both continents, who were often at war with the monarchs of Egypt, Ethiopia, Scythia, Iran, and Bharata or Hindostan.

“An intercourse was kept up more or less regularly between all the primitive nations and empires from the Ganges to the Mississippi. Krishna or Hercules, and Ramachandra, two heroes of India, visited Atala and the court of the western monarchs, which is called one of the heavens on earth, by the holy books of the east.¹³²

“The Atalans were civilized like the Atlantes, lived in towns, built houses of wood, clay and rough stones. They worshipped the sun and moon as emblems of the Deity and built them circular temples. They knew geometry, architecture, astronomy, glyphic signs or writing, the use of metals and agriculture. They had public games and festivals.¹³³ Their food was flesh, fish, fruits, roots and corn, which they brought from the east.

“At the time of their highest prosperity, a dreadful convulsion of nature happened in the Atlantic ocean, and other parts of the world, which is recorded in the oldest annals of many nations, the Hebrew, Hindu, Chinese, Mexican, Greeks and Egyptians. It appears to have been occasioned by simultaneous eruptions of volcanoes and earthquakes, which sunk, destroyed or convulsed many islands and countries, and among others the Atlantic land, of which the volcanic islands Azores, Madeira, Canary and Cape Verde Islands are the remains.

“In America, the Antilles were severed, the Carib islands formed, the Atlantic shores inundated by awful tides and many countries sunk or altered. This cataclysm is the division of the earth under Peleg, the flood of Ogyges¹³⁴ or Ogug, the Sanskrit convulsion of the White sea or Atlantic ocean.— The terror occasioned by this phenomenon interrupted the intercourse between Europe and America. The Eastern Atlantes thought that the whole American continent had sunk, like the Atlantic and many Antilles, and the Atlantes of the interior of America became insulated and separated from the Atlantic empire.”

¹³¹ This name survives in Sati-uriwa (king) in the Satipo Province in Peru and Satipo Province in Southeast Georgia.

¹³² Strange to say, but the Cherokee have a legend about *huios Dios*, Son of Zeus, a title of Herakles, whom they call Su-too Jee, a mythic strong man who dwelt on Lookout Mountain.

¹³³ The first English pioneers in Watauga Country mentioned Pan-Indian Olympic-styled games held every four years near Abingdon, Va.

¹³⁴ In Greek mythology, the first king of Thebes. During his reign a great flood, called the Ogygian deluge, was said to have overwhelmed the land.

Atalan and Cutan Divisions

"The Atalans of North America became now divided in many states and nations, such as the Apalache,¹³⁵ scattered from Florida to Virginia, Timuchua, from Texas to Guatamala, Pocons or Locans [cf. Poconos, Poca, Pocasset, Pokagon, Poquoson "swampy"], from the Allegheny to Panama. These divided again into Calusa, Conoys, Nanticoke, Cherokee, Lomashas, Popolocas,¹³⁶ Waccamaw [of North Carolina and Virginia] and Poconos [of New Jersey], the Corans [Coree] from Missouri to Mexico and the Talegans [Talegewi, perhaps Egyptian and allied] in Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio and Virginia.

"The Cutans of North America became also independent and formed many nations, such as the Haitians, the Lachacutans of Cuba and Alachuans of Florida, the Yucatans of Mexico and Lucayans of Bahama, the Arawaks of many islands and South America, the Tunicas of Lousiana,¹³⁷ Tepemacas [a Coahuiltecan-speaking group in Texas] and Tontonacs of Anahuac [Central Mexico], the Pawnee of Texas, and Tanasi of Tennessee, the Catawba of Carolina and Florida, the Coosa and Cusseta or Quezedans of Tennessee and Alabama.

¹³⁵ Also called Apalachee, this was a very old national group in the Southern Highlands. The Apalachites were so prominent at the time of European contact that the entire mountain range where they ruled was named after them. Descendants in the Creek Confederacy preserve the name as Aparashe. Richard Thornton says this is Panoan and means "From the Ocean (or Amazon Basin) – Descendants of." He explains, "The Panoan word for ocean and Amazon Basin are almost the same, except for an accent. The Panoans and Creeks roll their r's so hard that most Europeans, except the Spanish, wrote the sound as an l. So the Panoan pronunciation of Peru is Palu. There was a town on the Chattahoochee River, between the mountains and present day Atlanta named Apalu . . . which means From Peru." According to the etymology recorded by Garcilaso, Peru got its name from *Pelu* 'river.' Rafinesque derived the name Apalache from Pelagian elements *apo* 'from, across, along' (compare Greek *apo*, German *ab*) and *lach* 'sea, water, lake' (compare *loch*). The two explanations are not mutually exclusive.

¹³⁶ Popoluca is a Nahuatl term for various indigenous peoples of southeastern Veracruz and Oaxaca. Many of them speak languages of the Mixe-Zoque family. Others speak the unrelated Mazatecan languages of the Oto-Manguean language family, closely related to Mazatec.

¹³⁷ The Poverty Point culture on Bayou Macon overlooking the Mississippi floodplain, usually dated to 1700 BCE, is unusual for six concentric rings built beneath an artificial mountain shaped like a thunderbird, a plan that resembles that of the capital city of Atlantis, as described by Plato (Balthazar 1992, p. 2; Muck 1976, pp. 8-9). The Portsmouth Works on the Ohio shore of the Ohio River, one of the oldest mound sites, and visited more than once by Rafinesque, has the exact proportions and design of the so-called cross of Atlantis, or Celtic cross (Balthazar 10-11).

"All those nations were often contending for supremacy, except the Islanders, who became happy peaceful nations, whence the es were called the Fortunate Islands when discovered again.

"It appears that the Talegans of the Ohio and the Apalache south of them, were two of the most powerful empires of that period. The Apalache had many provinces or tribes, such as the Apalachis, Apalehen, Tlapan, Altamaha, Hitchiti, and Opelousa and were often at war with the Talegans. These Talegans, which we found named Talegewas or Alleghanys¹³⁸ afterwards, had dominion over a large extent of country. Their several provinces were situated in the most fertile regions, such as Kentucky, Ohio, the Kenhaway [Kanawa]¹³⁹ valley, the Illinois, the banks of lake Erie and Ontario.

"After some centuries, America was visited again by the nations of West Europe and Africa, but neither frequently nor in numbers. A casual intercourse was restored between the two continents. The Azores were visited as well as Madera, but not peopled owing to their active volcanoes; but the Canary or Hesperides islands were; from thence the navigators went to Cerne or St. Jago, and in 18 days to the Carib islands.— About this time the Carib, or Galibis, must have come to South America; they appear of Cantabrian origin.¹⁴⁰ The great nation of Guarani¹⁴¹ which extended all over Guiana, Brazil and Paraguay was of Daran [Mt. Atlas region in the Maghreb] origin and previous arrival.

"When the Arcutans [Northern Cutans] or Fermurians of Ireland, were expelled by the Danann,¹⁴² a tribe of Palis or Gaels, (after many revolutions in the island), they fled to Ayacuta, or Western Island of Haiti, and became probably the Arawak nation."

Rafinesque follows primarily the *Walam Olum* but also relies on distinct Shawnee, Haudenosaunee, Cherokee and Ottawa traditions, blending and harmonizing his wide range of sources. He was the first historian to write about the rise and fall of American Indian empires in a comprehensive narrative from an indigenous point of view. It is one that includes Jewish, Hindu, Mexican, Incan and Chinese sources. His panoramic survey covers the origins of all major Eastern tribes and most of the minor ones. Before

¹³⁸ The Allegheny Mountains were named after the Talegewis, or rather vice versa, confusingly, since Taligewi in Algonquian languages means "the people over there," and Allegheny means "the over-there mountains." Thus Taliwa and Taligewa may be Algonquian translations of "People from Far Away" and "Land of the People from Far Way."

¹³⁹ Named for the Conoy Indians.

¹⁴⁰ We would say today Basque and Celtoiberian.

¹⁴¹ The most widely spoken language in South America, one of two official languages of Paraguay today.

¹⁴² The Tuatha de Danann of Irish myth, who were the first people of the island and are said to have established Tara. Possibly the same as the Danes (?).

their admixture with Asiatic Indians (Rafinesque's Iztacans and Oghuzians), these First Peoples of America had Eurasian lineages. These are the mitochondrial haplogroups we label H, I, J, K, N, R, U, V, W and X. The distribution or exact proportions of these "non-Indian" types in Cherokee descendants matches ancient DNA work. It presupposes a time frame of approximately the Late Neolithic, Copper and Bronze Age (about 2000 to 500 BCE) for implantation in the New World. After that, Eurasian genes were engulfed by the classic "Indian" types A, B, C and D, and many Atalan and Cutan tribes migrated to safety in the south. But the stamp of their Old World origin remained in the DNA record. There was never a clean break, no population replacement, only endless "wars and revolutions."