

CHARACTER SKETCHES BY A WORLD-ROAMING ARTIST



JAVANESE DANCER
Portrait by Elisabeth Telling

"PEASANTS AND PRINCES: Portraits of Human Types in Indonesia and Central America" is the title of a special exhibit in Stanley Field Hall of the Museum from July 1 through Labor Day (September 2). It is a collection of 45 charming pastel drawings by Elisabeth Telling of some of the interesting personalities she has encountered in many years of travel. Miss Telling, a native of Chicago, has lived in recent years (when not roaming to far-off places) near Guilford, Connecticut.

With a fine eye for detail, Miss Telling records the characters and moods of her subjects as well as their physical traits. From an anthropologist's point of view her drawings are accurate representations of the peoples of the countries she has visited, but they are also interesting as studies of individual human beings and noteworthy as artistic creations. Among persons of various classes and ethnic groups portrayed in this series of her drawings are a Balinese princess, temple dancers of Bali, Java, and Thailand, a prince regent of Java, and a medicine man of a Guatemalan Indian tribe.

The collection is a gift to the Museum from Miss Telling, in recognition of which the Trustees elected her a Contributor.



GUATEMALAN INDIAN
Portrait by Elisabeth Telling

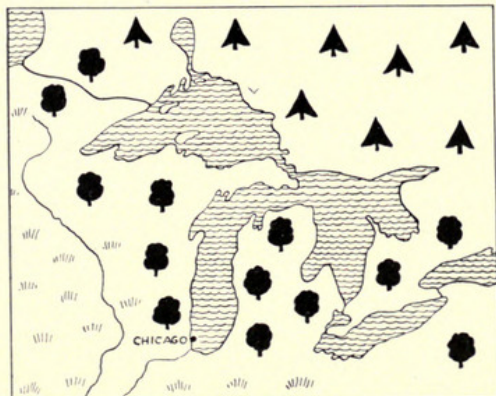
GREAT LAKES AREA—

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chestnut, and the grasslands increased still more their encroachments into the forests. By the end of this period the climate was hotter and drier than that of today.

Except perhaps in the far north, the mastodons were gone from the region. But deer, elk, barren-ground caribou and whales were among the animals still dwelling in the area. There is some evidence suggesting the presence of horses, now extinct, and bison in the western parts of the region during part of this period. Dogs of several kinds made their first appearance in association with primitive Indian cultures.

Early Post-Glacial (3000 B.C. to 1000 B.C.). Although the glacier had retreated from the upper Great Lakes area, its former presence



3000 B.C. to 1000 B.C.

was being manifested in a peculiar way. The land, which had been compressed by the tremendous weight of the ice, had been rising rapidly for less than 3,000 years. In places this rise amounted to about 400 feet, suggesting a rate of upwarping greater than one foot every ten years. The upwarping raised the North Bay outlet thus causing the waters of the upper Great Lakes to rise to levels controlled by outlets at Chicago and Port Huron, and for the first time the waters of the Huron, Superior, and Michigan basins were merged into one great lake. This was the Nipissing stage with a water plane 605 feet above present sea level.

South of the unwarped areas the high waters of Lake Nipissing reached the levels they had attained 5,000 years earlier. Many places that had long been dry land were once again under water, and in the north large areas were under water for the first time since the ice had left.

During the Nipissing times the forests dominated by oak and hickory achieved their maximum extension northward. This also was the period of the greatest expansion of the grasslands. It was also the time of the hottest and driest climate known in North America during the last 20,000 years.

Deer and elk were among the animals living in the region during Nipissing times. Whales may have lasted until Nipissing times because whale remains have been found enclosed in a Nipissing beach in Michigan.

Post-Glacial (1000 B.C. to 500 B.C.). The waters of Lake Nipissing were lowered by

down-cutting of their outlets. For a time between 1000 B.C. and 500 B.C. the levels in the Huron and Michigan basins were stabilized with a water plane at 596 feet above present sea level. This is the Algoma stage.

Around 1000 B.C. there was an abnormally cold period but it did not last for many years. The northern lands continued to rise, but at a much slower rate than previously. The upwarping since Nipissing times is about 80 to 100 feet in some places.

After the Algoma stage the upper Great Lakes took on their modern appearance and the flora and fauna were essentially as they were at the time of the arrival of European explorers.

This outline of the archaeology of the Upper Great Lakes environment gives some indication of the great variability from one period to another. It shows quite conclusively that it is a mistake to consider environment a constant when studying prehistoric Indian cultures of the Upper Great Lakes.

Curator Force Honored

Roland W. Force, Curator of Oceanic Archaeology and Ethnology, has been honored by appointment as a member of the Standing Committee on Museums and Pacific Research of the Pacific Science Association. Meetings of the association are held only every four or five years. The next meeting will be in Bangkok, Thailand, November 18–December 9 this year.



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