

# Ancient Myth Had Basis in Fact

Archaeology

## Tomb of "Dwellers Behind North Winds" Found

THE ancient Greeks were not dealing entirely in myths when they talked about the Land of the Hyperboreans, the dwellers behind the north winds. The latest discoveries by Prof. Peter Kozlov, famous Russian explorer, reveal that the Greeks were right in accepting rumors of a cultured race far to the north of their little world.

Prof. Kozlov, who has been excavating at an ancient burying ground in the mountain passes of northern Mongolia, has just sent back word to civilization that he has entered the tomb of an Asiatic person of rank who lived in eastern luxury more than 2,000 years ago. The expedition has placed special hopes on the mound containing this tomb, because the conditions of getting into it were so discouraging that it must have been thief-proof through the centuries.

The tumulus, or mound, was dub-

bed by the excavators the "wet tumulus" because of the water in it. Starting last summer, the expedition set four pumps working day and night to pump it dry. When this attack failed, they waited until winter brought heavy frost, and now scientific persistence has won. Out of the tomb the workers brought jade, tapestry, a carpet adorned with hieroglyphs, little carved figurines of dragons, lynxes, and spotted deer, and other beautiful things.

"It is astonishing to find articles of wood, leather stuff, not to mention carpets and human hair, in good preservation deep underground for a period of two thousand and more years," Prof. Kozlov stated. "The explanation is to be found in the even, low temperature from zero to one degree, which at a depth of a few sazhen has not changed for centuries, thus preserving even fine fabrics."

The explorer explained that his chief interest in the Mongolian sepulchres is to use them to shed light on the remote history of the region. Some of the buried objects show that Greek ideas spread to this distant heart of Asia. In the course of this relayed spreading of Greek objects and Greek styles in art, doubtless came the return wave of rumors as to the strange land beyond the north winds. Other objects from the Mongolian tombs show that the fine old culture of China influenced the lives of the people of this tribe.

Prof. Kozlov explains that according to Chinese scholars, the European Huns of the fourth century B. C. were in touch with the Hun-Hu people, who were wanderers living to the north of the Chinese. These Hun-Hu wanderers began to play politics about 200 B. C. when the chieftain was slain by his son, and the son united other nomad tribes and formed the first wandering empire. The Chinese soon discouraged this ambitious project, and tradition says that the Hun-Hu were assimilated by marriages between Hun-Hu princes and Chinese princesses.

"Objects found by us in the sepulchres between Urga and Kiachta confirm these varied influences," Prof. Koslov reported. "Objects bearing the impress of local art lie side by side with those reflecting the time of dynasties two centuries before the dawning of our era."

The ancient burying grounds where the expedition has been working are in the passes of the mountains, among birch and scattered pine trees. About 150 mounds marking graves have been adopted by the expedition, and ten mounds have been excavated. Thieves long ago plundered some of these tombs, but one grave of a woman of high rank had escaped this fate, and still contained rings adorned with rubies, earrings subtly worked in profile of a bull's head, a portrait on a slab of jade, bits of Chinese mirror, and vessels of black Chinese lacquer ornamented in gold.

All articles from the tombs are sent to Leningrad to be cleaned and restored. Many of the articles used 2,000 years ago are so well preserved that they look almost new when restored, Prof. Koslov stated.

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### The Telephone—Continued

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do not think I held the instrument in any uniform position, for I feel sure that I spoke with my mouth sometimes on one side of the membrane, and sometimes on the other, and listened in the same way. At all events, the position was immaterial.

SALEM, MASS., AUG. 14th, 1875.

DEAR MR. HUBBARD:

On glancing back over the line of electrical experiments, I recognize that the discovery of the magneto-electric current generated by the vibration of the armature of an electro-magnet in front of one of the poles is the most important point yet reached. I believe that it is the key to still greater things.

The effects produced, though slight in themselves, appear to me so great in proportion to their cause that I feel sure that the future will discover means of utilizing currents obtained in this way on actual telegraph lines.

So important does it seem to me to protect the idea that I think some steps should be taken immediately towards obtaining a Caveat or Patent for the use of a Magneto-Electric Current, whether obtained in the way stated above (by the vibration of permanent magnets in front of electro-

magnets), or in any other way. I should wish to protect it specially as a means of transmitting simultaneously musical notes differing in *intensity* as well as in pitch.

I can see clearly that the magneto-electric current will not only permit of the actual copying of *spoken utterance*, but of the simultaneous transmission of *any number* of musical notes (hence messages) without confusion.

The more I think of it the more I see that the method of making and breaking contact so many times per second is only the *first stage* in the development of the idea.

When we can create a pulsatory action of the current which is the *exact equivalent* of the aerial impulses, we shall certainly obtain exactly similar results. *Any number of sounds* can travel through the air without confusion, and any number should pass along the same wire.

It should even be possible for a number of spoken messages to traverse the same circuit simultaneously, for an attentive ear can distinguish one voice from another, although a number are speaking together.

Yours respectfully,

A. GRAHAM BELL.

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