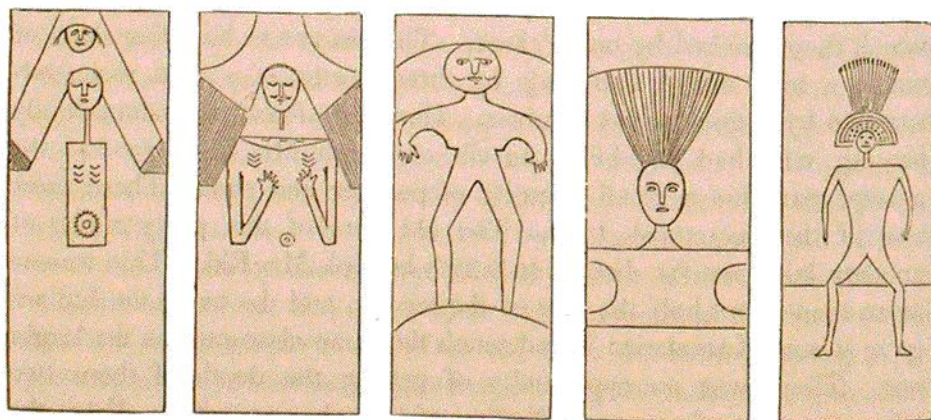


Having accomplished the object he had in view, Mr. Eld turned back, and soon reached the place where they had left the horses and articles, which they found all safe, under the charge of the slave, who, from appearances, had not moved from his position during the time of their absence, and was much relieved at their return.

The next day they returned to their party on the Chickeeles, passing on their route some of the gigantic pine trees, so often to be met with in this territory. Some of these had been burnt, and had in consequence fallen; Mr. Eld thus had an opportunity of measuring them. One, that was not selected as the largest, for there were many of equal if not greater length and diameter, was measured, and the part that lay in one piece was found to be two hundred feet long; another piece of the same tree was twenty-five feet long, and at the small end of the latter, it was still ten inches in diameter. Allowing twelve feet for the portion destroyed by fire, Mr. Eld thought twenty-five feet ought to be added for its top; which makes the whole length of the tree, when growing, two hundred and sixty feet. Others were believed to exceed this, both in height and diameter.

During the time of Mr. Eld's absence, Mr. Colvocoressis remained at the camp, and Mr. Brackenridge made short excursions to the south of the Chickeeles. The country on this side of the river is covered with a thick spruce forest, and the soil appears to differ much from that of the north, being poor, and composed of a mixture of sand and gravel, while on the north side it is an alluvial deposit, averaging from a half to two-thirds of a mile in width, well adapted to yield good crops of grain. From the marks on the trees, however, it is believed to be subject to an annual inundation of considerable depth. The weather continued dry and clear.



CARVED PLANKS.

Near this encampment were found some rudely carved painted