

Indian Rock

The Mississippi river at Memphis is at the lowest stage recorded for sixty years and Portsmouth people these days would be rowing over to the Kentucky shore to view the famed "Indian rock" if it were not for the pool stage of the Ohio river. This curiosity is the outline of an Indian head in profile on a large rock at the river's edge on the Kentucky side of the river opposite the site of the old water works.

This rock, which is visible only at extremely low stages of water, was first noted in the fall of 1841 and has been exposed to view about once each generation since then, when the Ohio went practically dry. No agreement of opinion has ever been reached as to whether the Indian head on the rock was a natural freak or the work of some unknown artist of a forgotten race.

With the streams flowing into the Ohio at a record low stage this famed curio would now again be visible but owing to the pool formed by the dam below the city it remains far beneath the surface of the river and will continue so for all time. So it is likely that the existence of "Indian rock" will be attested only by what will become merely tradition of the past.