

modern times. Fountains and pergolas and outdoor architecture, to which artistic scrolls and designs are added have been made of it. Temporary figures have been erected at exhibitions in which some form of concrete has been used haphazard. But none of these was intended or expected to be permanent.

Behind the building of the Black Hawk statue lies an interesting little story. A few years ago Mr. Taft was watching some workmen build a concrete chimney at the Art Institute, Chicago, and there came to him his great idea of the means for making an enduring statue. With the process in mind, it was not long until an adequate subject presented itself. For 15 years he has had his Summer home and studio at Eagle's Nest Camp, the Summer seat of the Chicago art colony. Standing for the 100th time at the highest point of the cliff, he never failed to remember that it was from here that Black Hawk was finally driven out of Illinois. So he decided to bring back the famous Indian chief, and now in concrete he again surveys his former domain.

Black Hawk and his tribes fought on the English side in the war of 1812. He saw sooner than anybody else that the whites would take all the Indian's happy huntings grounds from him. He tried everything from war to treaties to check the whites' advance. As he grew old he became more attached to his home along the Rock River and fought against removal to the Iowa reservation by the government. He even tried living in peace with the whites, but he had achieved such a reputation that any depredation that any Indians committed were laid at his tepee door.

Finally he and his people were driven across the Mississippi by Uncle Sam's soldiers. After that, as an old man, Black Hawk petitioned the Government that he might come back and view his old domains on the Rock River. Many members of the tribe were brought with him, and suddenly there was panic among the whites. Whether it was intentional from the first on the part of the Indian or the outcome of suspicion, a war was precipitated. Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis both fought with the whites, and Black Hawk was made a prisoner.

Now in concrete he again surveys his domain, with an air of "immutable disdain," as one artist puts it.

It is characteristic of Mr. Taft that when he went about what he hopes will be his most enduring work in a material way, he started with as little fuss as if it were a small matter. Silently and surely the work advanced as befits in character the approach of an Indian. Even the sculptor smiles at his work as if it were a conceit instead of the project of a lifetime, and succeeds partly in hiding his great joy in the work.

"I did not study any one type or race of of Indians," said Mr. Taft. "It is a composite of the Foxes and the Sacs, the Sioux and Mohawks,