## SPANISH CHAIN ARMOR ON THE LOUP

Curator E. E. Blackman of the Historical Society Museum, began exploration of ancient Indian village sites on the Loup river twenty-five years ago. In 1924 and 1925 he spent some weeks in this field. He was a member of the survey party from the Historical Society which was over this ground in September, 1924. Asked to give his contribution to the present discussion, he writes as follows:

"The Loup river from Columbus to a point twenty miles west of Fullerton is thickly studded with ruins of Indian village sites. The Pawness lived in this area. Many of these ruins date prior to 1720

Miss Matson informed me that many small brass plates, like those used in quilted armor in 1720, and like the three found west of Genoa, were dug up near one of the house sites about ten years ago.

"I met a gentleman near Monroe in 1924 who found a number of Spanish coins where they had been unearthed from a post hole twenty years ago. Charley Green of Marquette, Nebraska, found part of a stirrup and the top of a helmet said to be Spanish in design, near the old Chaui village across the Platte from Clarkson, Nebraska, about 35 years ago. A brass chain, distinctively Spanish, was found near Genoa two years ago.

"The finding of these numerous trinkets, which may well be relics of this Spanish Caravan together with the description given in the "Officer's diary" leads me to believe that the massacre occured at this village on the Looking Glass.

"If the caravan was at the mouth of Prairie Creek (the St. Lawrence), where it joins the Platte (Jesus Maria) on the morning of August 10, 1720, the distance travelled and the physical condition described

in the text fits the locality quite well.

"Further exploration may substantiate this supposition."