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Ent.

FIELD COLUMBIAN MUSEUM.

105

No

49392

Country

Cent. America

People

Ancient tribes

Nicaragua?

Locality

Nicaragua. Pacific Coast

Name

Stour metal tripod - animal head
(over)

335

Collection

A. D. Strauss

Where Placed

E. C. cen. opp Alcove 85

Notes

✓
Acc. 213

22h 1918.

The metates of Nicaragua are among the most characteristic of Central American archaeological objects. They were made principally by the Nicaraos, a Nahuatl people. Like the Mexican metate they are of vesicular lava, three-legged and concave. They are however, a much more artistic product. The form is generally extended to represent the head of a jaguar and the legs are frequently artistically carved.

The mullers are generally of a quasi-cylindrical shape, long and partly flattened on one side. The ends projected beyond the edges of the metate in use. By thus grinding the muller on the metate the corn was reduced to a meal suitable for food.