

come from the extensive valley of the river near which they lie, except, perhaps, the fragments of some rather rare hypogene rocks." As regards the distribution of those terrace deposits, Professor Shaler is still in doubt as to their origin, though he has made beds of this general character a subject of special study for eighteen years. They occur from Virginia northward to Labrador; and wherever found, correspond in structure. "The water-worn character of the pebbles," he remarks, "and the approximation to a level of the upper surface of the mass, make it plain that these beds were laid down beneath the water. The entire absence of organic remains in the mass proves that it was essentially a lifeless sea in which they were laid down. I am disposed to consider these deposits as formed in the sea, near the foot of the retreating ice-sheet, when the sub-glacial rivers were pouring out the vast quantity of water and waste that clearly were released during the breaking-up of the great ice-time." It is further to be noted, however, that on the one hand, in so far as this is to be regarded as a portion of the great glacial drift, it is not uniformly lifeless in the character of its contents; and, on the other hand, the deposits assumed to have been thus laid down in the depths of the ocean, appear to have been subsequently re-arranged or modified by other agencies, so as to suggest a reconsideration of the age assigned to the palæolithic remains which they have disclosed.

Such is the character of the geological formation in which Dr. Abbott claims to have successfully carried on researches leading to the discovery of examples of American palæolithic art analogous to those of the European drift. Professor Shaler says: "Along with the perfect looking implements figured by Dr. Abbott, which are apparently as clearly artificial as are the well-known remains of the Valley of the Somme, there are all grades of imperfect fragments, down to the pebbles that are without a trace of chipping;" and in the concluding sentence of a *Report on the Age of the Delaware Gravel Beds containing Chipped Pebbles*, he remarks: "If these remains are really those of man, they prove the existence of inter-glacial man on this part of our shore." Without any such cautious qualification, Professor F. W. Putnam, the experienced curator of the Peabody Museum, states in his report to the Board of Trustees: "From a visit to the locality with Dr. Abbott, I see no reason to doubt the general conclusion he has reached in regard to the existence of man