

ing each other. They are, however, not nearly so wide apart as they seem, and, as is not unusual in such cases, there is a good deal of exaggeration on both sides.

In the first place, I cannot help feeling that there is a good deal of exaggeration in the view as to primitive culture which is given by such writers as Taylor, Lubbock and others of that school, who insist on making the lowest form of civilization the earliest. That the different stages have existed and still exist we cannot of course doubt, but it is by no means certain that they have followed each other in the order indicated, from the lowest up to the highest, either generally or in any particular instance aside from external influences. That in some sense there has been progress and advancement from the beginning, of course nobody denies. And it makes a very neat and pretty theory captivating to the scientific imagination to suppose that this progress has proceeded regularly from the lowest point to the highest. The discipline of evolution is particularly apt to be carried away with the idea that a law which is found throughout all the history of physical life should apply here also. But the evidence in its favour is by no means satisfactory. It is certain, for instance, that in not a few instances the different types of tools have been in actual use in the community at the same time. And we can easily understand why it should be so. It is largely a matter of cost. The wealthy members in a community will always use the best implements available, because they can afford to procure them; and in the long run they more than pay for themselves. Their poorer neighbors are often compelled to get along as best they can with implements which are inferior and appliances that are every way ruder, though the conditions otherwise are the same. But even when there is evidence that these mark different periods we do not always find the rudest at the bottom of the list. Dr. Schliemann, in his excavations on the site of ancient Troy, as is well known, came to a stratum of debris that contained only stone implements. Had he stopped there his discovery would have been regarded as sus-