

At first I only contemplated reprinting the papers as they stood; but having, at the request of the managers, delivered at the Royal Institution a short course of lectures on the Antiquity of Man, it was thought desirable to introduce the substance of these, so as to give the work a more complete character.

My object has been to elucidate, as far as possible, the principles of pre-historic archæology; laying special stress upon the indications which it affords of the condition of man in primeval times. The tumuli, or burial mounds, the peat bogs of this and other countries, the Kjökkenmöddings or shell-mounds of Denmark, the Lake-habitations of Switzerland, the bone-caves and the river-drift gravels, are here our principal sources of information.

In order to qualify myself, as far as possible, for the task which I have undertaken, I have visited not only our three great museums in London, Dublin, and Edinburgh, but also many on the Continent; as, for instance, those at Copenhagen, Stockholm, Lund, Flensburg, Aarhus, Lausanne, Basle, Berne, Zurich, Yverdon, Paris, Abbeville, etc., besides many private collections of great interest, of which I may particularly specify those of M. Boucher de Perthes, Messrs. Christy, Evans, Bateman, Forel, Schwab, Troyon,