

alone, generally with stone or iron, and often all three together.

The *Pfalhbauten*, or lake dwellings of Switzerland, where many of these remains are obtained, are analogous to similar structures still in existence, and the piles on which they are built frequently exhibit every mark of the axe as plainly as if only put down a comparatively short time ago. They yield also grains of wheat and barley undecayed, flax and cloth unchanged in texture, vases, bracelets and bronze ornaments lying on the bottom of the lake in full view from its surface. These facts seem inconsistent with the alleged antiquity of these structures.

The remains of the *Neolithic*, or Later Stone period, are chiefly polished axes, hatchets and similar weapons, like those still made by our American Indians. There is no evidence why they should be assigned to a distant period, as they are frequently found mingled with bronze and iron implements. Even where they occur separately, they more probably indicate a different condition of life than greater remoteness in time—the rich using iron or bronze, and, as these would be necessarily expensive, the poor using stone.

The *Palaolithic* remains consist chiefly of rough stone axes and flint flakes found in the Danish *Kjokkenmoddings*, in drift grave! beds and in ancient caves. The *Kjokkenmoddings*, or "kitchen refuse heaps," are immense beds of shells of edible mollusks analogous to those formed by the Patagonian fishermen at the present time. They yield numerous stone implements, rarely with any trace of iron or bronze. Yet the absence of metal is no proof of a distinct period, but only of the greater rudeness and poverty of these savage fishing tribes. Sir John Lubbock, indeed, figures a bronze pin* from a Scotch shell mound, to which he attributes an age of not more than a thousand years.

It is, however, the presence of

alleged human relics in the gravel beds of the river Somme, in France, and in the southern counties of England, frequently associated with the remains of extinct animals, that is assumed to carry the antiquity of man back to the most remote ages. These consist of the rudest conceivable flint implements, if implements they can be called at all. Indeed, Dr. Wilson admits that "wherever the wrought flints are discovered *in situ*, they appear to occur in beds of gravel and clay abounding in unwrought flints in every stage of accidental fracture, and including many which the most experienced archæologist would hesitate to classify as of natural or artificial origin." Actual experiment has shown that the natural cleavage of the flints from unequal expansion caused by the sun's heat imitates the forms of some of those so-called lance heads and axes.

It is incredible, as Dr. Cooke points out, that the race which in two thousand years has advanced from the condition of naked savages to the civilization of the modern Englishman or German, should have remained for one hundred thousand years previously in a condition of unprogressive barbarism, less able to provide a subsistence and resist the attacks of wild beasts or stress of weather than the cave bear or the hyena. Moreover, as our author well remarks, if man had existed for anything like that period, instead of a few thousand flint implements, we ought, in consequence of their so soon losing their cutting edge and being then useless yet indestructible, to find unnumbered millions of them amid the *debris* of ancient life. But even if these flints were wrought by man, it is by no means certain that the gravel beds in which they occur are of anything like the age ascribed to them. It is also passing strange that no human bones are found associated with these flints, although the bones of animals assumed to be contemporary with man are thus found.

*Pre-historic Times, American edition, p. 292.