

"THE FOSSIL MAN AT MENTONE."

In the London *Lancet* for December 7th we find a description, from the pen of Dr. J. Henry Bennett, of the discovery of the fossil man in the Baoussé Roussé Caverns, near Mentone, in March last.

The work of exploration of the Caverns of Mentone was entrusted, by the French Government, to a distinguished geologist, M. Rivière. The skeleton is at present in the Anthropological Department of the Geological Museum of Paris, and has been visited and examined by many of the scientific men of the day.

The skeleton, which is all but perfect, is that of a large man, upwards of six feet in height, and has no resemblance to the orang or any species of monkey. The skull is elongated, convex superiorly dolichocephalic. The entire superior maxillæ are seen and the teeth are all present. The inferior maxilla is only half exposed, but the teeth in that half are perfect. The molars are worn flat, as though from the constant trituration of hard food. The orbital cavities are peculiar, they differ in length and diameter from those of any known race of men, and closely resemble, in that particular, to some of the specimens found in 1868 at Cro-Magnon, in Perigord. M. Rivière thinks that this peculiarity may imply a pre-historic and last type of man.

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## Medical News.

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### DR. DITTERICH ON GOUT.

Ditterich (*Lo Sperimentale*, t. xxx.) says that the carbonate of lithia is the most potent of all remedies in gout, or wherein there is excess of uric acid in the blood; and this salt has recently fallen a little into discredit, because not suitably prescribed. The dose of five to ten grains, recommended by Aschenbreuner, generally produces rather disagreeable symptoms, as dyspepsia, catarrh of the stomach or intestines, with vomiting, &c., which requires the cessation of the remedy. These doses are too large, according to Ditterich, to act well, and the dose should not exceed two grains, and in the twenty-four hours not more than fifteen grains should be given. The other problem to resolve in treating gout, is if the case be in the acute or chronic stage, for in the first lithia is not indicated, whilst in the second the carbonate may be given in the proportion of seven grains in a six-ounce mixture, and one or two