

out the smaller fragments of bones, etc., and so it happened that in the course of time the stones around their fire-places, which were used to support the firewood and the pots, were gradually buried up, and fresh stones had to be brought in to raise the wood above the embers and to support the cooking vessels. If the occupants of a hut were careless enough to break a pot, it was more than probable that the fragments would be allowed to lie on the floor and be trampled under foot until buried out of sight among the *debris* scattered around the fire-place. The bones left after dinner received much the same treatment. When the flesh was eaten off the leg-bones they were broken up for the marrow they contained, and, with the smaller bones, were left scattered around on the floor, or perhaps the larger fragments would be flung carelessly out of the door and left to fester in the sun. Occasionally a fit of house-cleaning would seize upon the occupants of one of these huts and the *debris* lying within on the floor would be scraped together and shovelled out at the door to mingle with the heap of shells and broken bones without. The evidence of these actions on the part of the inhabitants of hut A is found in the frequently alternating layers of charcoal mingled with broken bones, of pottery clay and other *rejectamenta* from the hut, which are found in the kitchen-midden before the door. These occur with considerable regularity and frequency in alternation with the layers of clam shells which form the bulk of the shell heap. Owing to these occasional house-cleanings, and the vast quantities of clam shells thrown down around these dwellings, the *kjökkenmødding* increased much more rapidly than the deposits within the huts; and although fresh material was frequently brought in to level up the interior of the huts, the boughs and perishable matter within gradually decayed away and the floors sank down, so that now the depth of the deposit within the site of the huts is only about half as great as that of the shell heaps without.

The fire-place of this hut was found to have been kept in the same spot from the time the hut was first built, almost until the settlement was abandoned. Such, however, was not the case with an adjoining hut-bottom (B), which was gradually shifted to the east, so that at the close of the occupancy of this village site it was about two feet from its original position. A similar want of

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