

to the open country along the coasts and estuaries, the products of the sea, and especially the edible mollusca, formed no unimportant source for their precarious supplier of food.

Among the interesting illustrations of that common transitional ground on which the geologist and the archæologist meet, few have attracted greater attention than the celebrated Kent's Hole Cave, near Torquay, Devonshire. It has furnished many of the later palæontological specimens which now enrich the collections of the British Museum; and to its disclosures both Buckland and Owen have acknowledged their obligations for some of their most important data. The roof of the cave is clustered with pendant cones of stalactite, and the floor thickly paved with concretions of stalagmite, the accumulations of many centuries. Beneath and embedded in this have been found numerous relics of primitive savage life, intermingled with the remains of the rhinoceros, the hyena, and great cave-tiger, *felis* and *hyena spelæa*, the *ursus spelæus* or cave bear, along with those of other extinct mammals. Among these, though in more superficial deposits, lay traces of the rude culinary practices, illustrative of the habits and tastes of the primeval British savage. These are minutely described in the notes of the Rev. J. McEnery, by whom the cave was first explored. Fragments of sun-baked primitive pottery of the rudest description, rounded slabs of slate of a plate-like form, broken and calcined bones, charcoal and ashes, all served to show where the hearth of the old barbarian Briton had stood; and along with these lay dispersed, flints in all conditions, from the rough pebble as it came out of the chalk, through the various stages of progress, on to the finished spear and arrow-heads and hatchets of flint; indicating that the ancient British troglodyte had here his workshop as well as his kitchen, and wrought the raw material of his primitive manufactures into the requisite tools and weapons of the chase. Other articles, including lance-heads, bodkins, and objects of unascertained uses,—hair-combs or netting tools,—all made of bone, lay amid the accumulated chips and splinters of flint and bone; while nearer the mouth of the cave lay a larger collection of shells of the muscle, limpet, and oyster, indicating that the ancient British aborigines found their precarious subsistence from the alternate spoils of the chase and of the sea. Nor were indications wanting of just such applications of the pearly inner luminæ of the oyster and other shells for the purposes of ornament, as may be observed in the grotesque inlaid carvings of the