

traditional notion of their value.* I picked up in the lower bed of the caverns of Arcy (the stratum of the *Ursus Spelæus*), a kidney shaped piece of hydrated geodic iron, analogous to a specimen of the same nature which I procured from the excavation of a dolmen at Birochère, near Pornic; the same bed likewise contained a substance which I think should be attributed to the peroxyde of manganese. Two analogous specimens came from the Devil's Furnace at Bourdeilles (the stratum of the Reindeer). Lastly, the hearthstone of Laugerie, parish of Tayac, has made me the possessor of a little mass of copper, almost completely covered with a coating of a green carbonate of copper, and cubic crystals of protoxide of copper. The aspect of this mineral, which, however, I think natural, is analogous to that of the Roman-French *fibulæ* in bronze, enclosing in a cavity similar crystals of oxydized copper. Beyond all doubt the primitive tribes had foreign relations, as is established by the remains of sea-shells found among wrought articles; at Bourdeilles the *Patella* and *Dentalium*; at Montgaudier, the *Buccinum* and *Dentalium*; at Eyzies, the *Cassis*. In the same way M. Lartet had discovered at Aurignac certain perforated disks, fashioned from the valves of the *Cardium*. Similar disks, taken out of the excavation of a dolmen, four miles from Mende, form part of my collection.

I do not wish to conclude this note without mentioning the presence of splinters of glass quartz among the flint instruments accompanying wrought bones. I collected the first specimen in the lower structure of the caves of Arcy (1862). The same fact is reproduced in 1863 at Montgaudier, and still later at Eyzies. This last fragment of rock crystal, slightly smoked, seems retouched at the edges.

To add a new fact to my own observations, I shall mention the interesting researches of two generations of Savants. While exploring the banks of the Charente, Messrs. de Rochebrune, father and son, succeeded in rescuing from the vandalism of the workmen some magnificent molars of the *Elephas Antiquus*, accompanied by molars of the *Elephas Primigenius*, a remarkable fragment of a tusk, and some bones of the limbs, unfortunately too few. Upon one of these last the most evident trace of an incision was recognizable. Among the rolled pebbles and the remains of crystalline rocks accompanying these bones,

* The tribes who undoubtedly bored the horns of the reindeer, the incisors of the horse and ox, the canines of the wolf, the reindeer, the *Ursus Arctos*, and the *Ursus Spelæus*, in order to suspend them by way of ornament or amulet, might equally well attribute to the metals some healing, or even supernatural, virtue.