

Anthropic Age, or age of man, understanding this to be the closing age of the long eons of geological history. But tho man is thus geologically recent, he is historically very old. We have evidence, in his bones and implements found in caverns and fissures, in river alluvia and in gravels and rubble beds, that he existed over considerable portions of our continents long before the dawn of secular history, at a time when the continents of the northern hemisphere were more extensive than at present, when the climate was probably somewhat different, and when he was contemporary with many species of land animals either now extinct, or which have greatly changed their places of abode. The facts in relation to these early men are of course best known in the Eastern Hemisphere, and more especially in southern and middle Europe, where such remains are abundant and have been most carefully collected and studied.*

Geologically speaking, these primitive people may be regarded as fossil men. They belong to races no longer extant. They are accompanied by extinct species of animals, they existed under geographical conditions different from those of the present day. They belong, therefore, to a past age. Because of some apparent differences in the stone implements which they used from those of modern savages, they have been called Paleolithic men, or men of the old Stone Age. In Europe they have also been called men of the Mammoth Age, because contemporary with that extinct European elephant. Regarding the whole human period as the Anthropic, it is most appropriate to designate them as men of the Palanthropic Age, as distinguished from Neanthropic men who still survive.

In Europe three varieties of these ancient men are known: 1. The Canstadt or Neanderthal men,—a low-browed race resembling some modern savages. 2. The Truchère race, of finer and higher mold and not unlike the ancient Iberian peoples of Europe, whose descendants still exist there. 3. The Cro-Magnon or Mentone race, which has the characteristics, as established by Dr. Boas in the case of half-blood Indians and whites, of a mixed descent, and which excelled, in stature and size of brain, both of the pure races, and indeed most of those of modern times. There are skeletons of the Mentone people which represent men seven feet in stature, of strong and muscular build, and with great cranial capacity. All the works of these people yet known indicate a Stone Age, and a semi-barbarous condition. There is evidence, however, of clothing, and of much taste and artistic skill in the making of bone and ivory implements and in carvings and personal ornaments. They all seem to have been hunters and fishermen, and used their weapons not only in the chase but in conflicts with each

* Reference may be made to Prestwich, "The Tradition of the Flood;" Dawkins, "Early Man in Britain;" Christy and Lartet, "Reliquiæ Aquitanicæ;" Quatrefages, "Homme Fossile;" Dupont, on Belgian Caves; Carthailac, "La France Préhistorique;" Wilson, "Prehistoric Man;" Rau, "Primitive Man in Europe;" "The Meeting-place of Geology and History," by the writer of this article, and other easily accessible works.