

ice. The form of America at that discovery; with such evidence of times, before the of looking elsewhere Agassiz was; but they have

with the idea of to their character, and the sediment and stone implements established antiquity, many of But it has to be abandoned the and ivory. So the cave-men of Canadian frontier for the American his discovery in the ancient hunters mammals, and of him the historical analogies with the they now live, of the valley analogies form the manner has its living

ing disclosures; pleistocene river by its originator. of still older in their range, their weapons that indefinite live on, within in the hyper-age, hunted

the mammoth, the musk-sheep, and the reindeer in the valleys of the Garonne, Professor Dawkins reviews the manners and habits of the Eskimos as a race of hunters, fishers, and fowlers, accumulating round their dwellings vast refuse heaps similar to those of the ancient cave-men. Both were ignorant of the metallurgic arts, were excluded to a large extent by a like rigorous climate from access to stone or flint, while they habitually turned to account the available material, resulting from the spoils of the chase: bone, ivory, and deer's horn, in the manufacture of all needful tools. The implements and weapons thus common to both do unquestionably prove that their manner of life was in many respects similar; and as Professor Dawkins notes what would scarcely seem surprising in any people familiar with the working in bone, viz: the use at times by the Eskimo of fossil mammoth ivory for the handles of their stone scrapers, he adds: "It is very possible that this habit of the Eskimos may have been handed down from the late pleistocene times." But what strikes him as "the most astonishing bond of union between the cave-men and the Eskimos is the art of representing animals;" and, after noting those familiar to both, along with the correspondence in their weapons, and habits as hunters, he says: "All these points of connection between the cave-men and the Eskimos can, in my opinion, be explained only on the hypothesis that they belong to the same race." \*

As to the ingenious imitative art of the Cro-Magnon cave-dwellers, it is by no means peculiar to them and the modern Eskimos; but, on the contrary, is common to many savage races; though by no modern savage people has a like degree of artistic ability been shown. Professor Dawkins says truly of the cave-man: "He possessed a singular talent for representing the animals he hunted; and his sketches reveal to us that he had a capacity for seeing the beauty and grace of natural form not much inferior to that which is the result of long-continued civilization in ourselves, and very much higher than that of his successors in Europe in the Neolithic age. The hunter who was both artist and sculptor, who reproduced with his imperfect means at one time foliage, at another the quiet repose of a reindeer feeding, has left behind him the proof of a decided advance in culture, such as might be expected to result from the long continuance of man on the earth in the hunter state of civilization." † All this is correct in reference to the art of the Vézère carvers and draftsmen; but it would be gross exaggeration if applied to such conventional art as the Eskimo arrow-straightener which Professor Dawkins figures, with its formal row of reindeer and their grotesque accessories. The same criticism is equally applicable to numerous other specimens of Eskimo art, and to similar Inuit, or western Eskimo representations of hunting scenes, such as those figured by Mr. William H. Dall, in his "Alaska," which he describes as "drawings analogous to those discovered in France in the caves of Dordogne." ‡

The identity, or near resemblance between harpoons, fowling spears, marrow-spoons, and scrapers, of the ancient cave-race of pleistocene France and implements of the modern Eskimos, is full of interest; as is much also of a like kind between savage races of our own day in the most widely severed regions of the globe; but it is a most slender basis on which to found such far-reaching deductions. The old race that lived on the verge of the

\* Early Man in Britain, p. 241.

† Early Man in Britain, p. 244.

‡ Alaska and its resources, p. 237.