

or summit of a slight elevation of the chalk. A section of this pit, which Mr. Prestwich lately exhibited to the Royal Society showed that the gravel presents here a thickness of about ten feet. Above this occurs a thin bed of coarse, white, silicious sand interspersed with small rounded chalk-pebbles; and above the sand is a layer of strong loam, of a red colour, which is now extensively worked for the purpose of making bricks. The remains of the elephant horse, and deer have been occasionally found in the gravel; and we found in the sand which rests upon it an abundance of land and freshwater shells, all of recent species. No fossils of any kind were discovered by us in the brick-earth lying on the surface. At the distance of a few hundred yards from the convent of St. Acheul are the remains of an ancient Roman cemetery. A large stone tomb is here left standing on the surface, the brick-earth having been cleared away from it; and here many Roman coins and bronze ornaments are found.

At St. Roch, (about half a mile distant from St. Acheul), we also examined a quarry of flint-gravel, of precisely the same character, and apparently of the same period, as that of St. Acheul. We procured from it two very fine tusks of the *hippopotamus*, which had been found twenty feet from the surface. These were but little rolled or broken, and it seems probable therefore, that the forces that transported these flint implements to their present position may also have deposited these remains of the *hippopotamus*.

The first discovery of these flint instruments, as well in this quarry as in other localities in the Valley of the Somme, is due to M. Boucher de Perthes, of Amiens. It was with a view to verify by personal observation the result of his researches that our visit to St. Acheul and the neighbourhood was undertaken. Mr. Prestwich had, indeed, previously visited the spot, and had embodied the result of his researches in a paper which was read before the Royal Society in May last. He had not, however, succeeded in finding one of these implements *in situ*, although he had procured several of them from the labourers. It was only after labouring for several hours that I succeeded in disinterring the specimen in question.

The result of our examination perfectly satisfied us, as it had already satisfied Mr. Prestwich, of the frequent occurrence of these weapons or implements beneath the beds of loam, sand, and gravel which I have described. We not only found two good spe-