

have been blotted from creation since American humanity's first appearance. The form of these crania, moreover, proves that the general type of races inhabiting America at the inconceivably remote era was the same which prevailed at the Columbian discovery; * and so the authors of "Types of Mankind" arrive at the conclusion that with such evidence of the native American type having occupied the continent in geological times, before the formation of the Mississippi alluvia, science may spare itself the trouble of looking elsewhere for the origin of the American race. The high authority of Professor Agassiz was adduced at the time in support of this and other equally crude assumptions, but they have ceased to receive the countenance of men of science.

Meanwhile the progress of European discovery has familiarized us with the idea of the rude primeval race of its palæolithic era, so designated in reference to their characteristic implements recovered from the river drift of France and England, and the sedimentary accumulations of their rock shelters and limestone caves. That flint and stone implements of every variety of form abound in the soil of this continent, has been established by ample proof; and if mere rudeness could be accepted as evidence of antiquity, many of them rival in this respect the rudest implements of the European drift. But it has to be kept in view that the indigenous tribes of America have not even now abandoned the manufacture of implements of obsidian, flint and stone, as well as of bone and ivory. So striking, indeed, is the analogy between the simple arts of the palæolithic cave-men of southern France, and those still practised by the Eskimo on our own Canadian frontier that Professor Boyd Dawkins has been led from this to find a pedigree for the American aborigines not less ancient than that which Dr. Dowler long ago deduced from his discovery in the delta of the Mississippi. The implements and accumulated debris of the ancient hunters of the Garonne, the contemporaries of the mammoth and other extinct mammals, and of the reindeer, musk-sheep, cave-bear, and other species known only within the historic period in extreme northern latitudes, undoubtedly suggest interesting analogies with the modern Eskimo. Only under similar climatic conditions to those in which they now live, could such accumulations of animal remains as have been found in the caves of the valley of the Vézère be possible in places habitually resorted to by man. But such analogies form a very slender basis on which to found the startling hypothesis that the race of the mammoth and reindeer period in the remote post-pliocene era of southern France has its living representatives within the Arctic circle of the American continent.

The students of modern archaeology have become familiar with startling disclosures, and the supposed identification of living representatives of the race of the pleistocene river beds or cave deposits is too fascinating a one to be readily abandoned by its originator. Professor Dawkins conceives the men of the river-drift era to have been a race of still older and ruder savages than the palæolithic cave-men, who were more restricted in their range, and considerably in advance of them in the variety and workmanship of their weapons and implements. The elder ruder race has vanished; but the cave race of that indefinite but vastly remote era of late pliocene, or post-pliocene Europe, is assumed to live on, within the Arctic frontiers of our own Dominion.

In discussing the plausible hypothesis which thus aims at recovering in the hyperboreans of this continent the race that before the close of Europe's pleistocene age, hunted

* Types of Mankind, page 351.

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