

in glacial times on the Atlantic coast of North America." Such, then being the present state of this important inquiry, a review of the evidence thus far adduced cannot fail to be of interest.

The Report of Dr. Abbott is produced as an embodiment of the results of "investigations in the valley of the Delaware, made with reference to the occurrence of supposed palæolithic implements in the gravel beds facing that stream, based upon a series of careful examinations of the deposits in question, made at different points, together with a study of the surface soils, so far as these, of themselves and by their contained relics, bear upon the question of the origin and character of the specimens of stone implements taken from the underlying gravels." Keeping carefully in view the misleading traces of comparatively modern Indian remains in deposits geologically ancient, he remarks: "The chance occurrence of single specimens of the ordinary forms of Indian relics, at depths somewhat greater than they have usually reached, even, in constantly cultivated soils, induced me, several years since, to carefully examine the underlying gravels, to determine if the common surface-found stone implements of Indian origin were ever found therein, except in such manner as might easily be explained, as in the case of deep burials by the uprooting of large trees, whereby an implement lying on the surface, or immediately below it, might fall into the gravel beneath, and subsequently become buried several feet in depth; and lastly, by the action of water, as where a stream, swollen by spring freshets, cuts for itself a new channel, and carrying away a large body of earth, leaves its larger pebbles, and possibly stone implements of late origin, upon the gravel of the new bed of the stream."

But while thus recognizing the intrusion of relics of modern Indian workmanship at considerable depths in ancient gravels, Dr. Abbott claims to have discovered, independent of those, and readily distinguishable from them, though in the same underlying gravels, certain rudely shaped specimens of chipped stone, which have all the characteristics of the stone implements of palæolithic times. These are classified by him into a primitive form, to which he has given the name of "turtle-back" celt, with modifications of the same, and others approximating to the more familiar forms of the hatchet, the spear, and the scraper; while the deposit in which they occur is largely made up of ordinary smooth water-worn pebbles, varying in size from half an inch in diameter to boulders estimated to weigh