low types of humanity may be as to primeval habits, there are instances brought to light to show that even the wildest tribes made occasional spasmodic efforts to improve their condition, and even to attain a certain stage of civilization. As an illustrious example we might cite the grand and mysterious remains at Pelanki and other parts of Central America, which amply testify to a high state of progress in the arts on the part of the aboriginal inhabitants; but to go still further back in time, we find that primitive humanity, long anterior to any historic record, must have advanced in skill, and with such advancement we may safely infer they improvea in condition. It has been shewn by certain distinguished antiquaries and naturalists-Danish and Swedish in particular-such as Nillson, Steinstrop, Forchammer, and others, that a chronological succession of periods can be established, which have been called the ages of stone, of bronze, and of iron, named from the material which have each in their turn. served for the fabrication of implements. (Lyell's Aut. of Man.) Now, as bronze is an alloy of about nine parts of copper and one of tin; and seeing that although the former metal is often found in a native state, and ready, as it were, for immediate use; tin is not only a rare ore as such, but never occurs native, it must without hesitation be admitted that the bronze population had far advanced in art over the stone people, as, to get the combination required, they must have been skilled in the art of smelting. To detect the existence of the ore of tin, then disengage it from the matrix, and finally after blending it in due proportion with copper, to cast the fused mixture in a mould, allowing time for it to acquire hardness by cooling; all bespeaks no small skill in manipulation. The next stage of improvement is that manifested by the substitution of iron for bronze, indicating another stride in the progress of the arts. Except in meteoric stones. iron like tin is never found native, and to fuse it requires intense heat, not to be obtained without artificial appliances, such as pipes inflated by the human breath or bellows, or some other suitable machinery. These improvements, however, great as they may appear to be, were chiefly designed for the common purpose of attaining superiority over the less improved races that still languished, in war or in the chase. No record has been left to shew that agriculture was pursued in any form, or that those primeval people ever arrived beyond a mcdification of original barbarism. The deposits in which the implements have been found are nearly destitute of domestic animals, with the exception of the dog, the constant faithful attendant of man through every stage of developement. Lyell re-marks, however, that the domestic ox, the horse, and the sheep, are confined to that part of the Danish peat which grew in the ages of bronze and iron; but it appears probable enough that these animals, although found associated with other remains representive of those ages, were not actually domestic, in the proper sense of the word; but an aboriginal stock from whence domestic animals were subsequently derived.

But notwithstanding the natural instinct which so evidently points towards progression and improvement, there is nevertheless a tendency in