

We have abundant evidence of the kind of food which these lake-people subsisted on, in the way of bones of various animals gnawed and cut by them, and also, singular to relate, the kind of bread they ate. As may be supposed, their bread was of the coarsest character, being made from grains of corn that were first roasted, then pounded with a stone and pressed into cakes. Even fruits have been found ready cut and prepared for consumption, the apple being quite common among the petrified specimens. There have also been found seeds of the plum, raspberry and blackberry, also hazel and beech-nuts, all of which were used for food. Of the people themselves! Where are they? From whence descended, and whither have they passed? Nothing but the age-covered relics mentioned remain to tell us that such a singular people ever existed.

#### THE TREE DWELLERS.

As races of men are found dwelling in lakes, rivers and caverns, so do we find others making their habitations among the trees, as if to prove that mankind, in his undeveloped state, adopts the ways of animals among which he maintains a struggle for existence. Sometimes the ravages of beasts, with which he is unable to contend, drive him from a natural condition and serve to impart to him the most singular ideas, leading to the adoption of equally curious modes of living. The same results may arise from oppressions imposed by a more powerful race; and yet again, in the wildernesses of the world, where there is no stimulant to ambition, we occasionally find man living as he did at the dawn of creation—in shape a human, in condition a beast.

More than one tribe of equatorial savages are noted for their singular mode of life in constructing their dwellings high up upon the branches of lofty and gigantic trees, where they not only build isolated houses, but villages as well. Among these strange people the *Bakones*, of South Central Africa, are best known, because they are more universally tree dwellers than any other tribe of whom we have any reliable information. Mr. Moffat, the well-known missionary, who has given us so many interesting descriptions of the African tribes among whom he labored for nearly twenty-five years, writes as follows of the tree dwellers:

#### THE HOUSES OF THE BAKONES.

“ \* \* \* On reaching the topmost hut, about thirty feet from the ground, I entered, and sat down. Its only furniture was the hay which