

of the early inhabitants of our island. This human skull, for which I am indebted to Warren Lee, Esq. of Lewes, was dug up at a great depth in the blue silt of Beeding Levels; it was inclosed, together with the other bones of the skeleton, in a coffin of oak, which was evidently of high antiquity, being formed of four rude planks, or rather squared trunks of trees, held together by oaken pegs. The skull is of a dark bluish-brown colour, like the bones of the deer and horse of similar deposits; an appearance attributable to an impregnation of iron; when first dug up, blue phosphate of iron filled up the interstices of the bones. The state of the teeth is remarkable; they are worn down almost smooth, although the individual must have been in the prime of life; a fact which seems to indicate that grain, or some other hard substance, constituted a large proportion of his customary food.

35. PEAT BOGS.—Before proceeding to the next subject, I will advert to those extensive accumulations of vegetable matter called Peat Bogs. These are morasses, covered with successive layers or beds of mosses, reeds, *equiseta*, rushes, and other plants that affect a marshy soil; and in particular of a kind of moss, the *sphagnum palustre*, which frequently constitutes a large proportion of the entire mass.

stone instruments: no doubt this canoe belongs to the same period as the flint and stone instruments called *celts*, which are found in the tumuli on the South Downs; it is now in the state of peat or bog-wood.