

Kent and Essex into the Thames, instead of emptying themselves into its estuary.

More than a dozen flint weapons of the Amiens type have already been found in the basin of the Thames; but the geological position of no one of them has as yet been ascertained with the same accuracy as that of many of the tools dug up in the valley of the Somme.*

Flint Implements of the Valley of the Ouse, near Bedford.

The ancient fluviatile gravel of the valley of the Ouse, around Bedford, has been noted for the last thirty years for yielding to collectors a rich harvest of the bones of extinct mammalia. By observations made in 1854 and 1858, Mr. Prestwich had ascertained that the valley was bounded on both sides by oolitic strata, capped by boulder clay, and that the gravel No. 3, fig. 23, contained bones of the elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, bos, equus and cervus, which animals he therefore inferred must have been posterior in date to the boulder clay, through which, as well as the subjacent oolite, the valley had been excavated. Mr. Evans had found in the same gravel many land and fresh-water shells, and these discoveries induced Mr. James Wyatt, of Bedford, to pay two visits to St. Acheul, in order to compare the implement-bearing gravels of the Somme with the drift of the valley of the Ouse. After his return he resolved to watch carefully the excavation of the gravel-pits at Biddenham, two miles WNW. of Bedford, in the hope of finding there similar works of art. With this view he paid almost daily visits for months in succession to those pits, and was at last rewarded by the discovery of two well-formed implements, one of the spear-head and the other of the oval shape, perfect counterparts of the two prevailing French types figured at

* See Appendix B*. 'Flint implement found with mammoth bones in Wiltshire.'