

there is a Stone Age; and if the race advances, this is followed by an Age of Bronze, and this by an Age of Iron. Some Eastern nations passed out of their Stone Age three thousand years or more before the Christian era. Some of the peoples of Central and Northern Europe were in their Stone Age when Cæsar subjugated Gaul. The Sandwich Islanders were in their Stone Age when first visited by Capt. Cook, while the Esquimaux and the North American Indians generally are still in their Stone Age. The Age of Stone is simply the stage of infancy. Different peoples have emerged at different epochs from the state of national infancy.

When man first made his advent in Europe, that continent was still the abode of quadrupeds now long extinct. The contemporaries of man in the Hewn-stone epoch were the Cave-Bear (*Ursus spelæus*), followed by the Cave-Hyena (*Hyena spelæa*) and the Cave-Lion. These gradually gave place to gigantic herbivores—the Hairy Mammoth (*Elephas primigenius*), the Hairy Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros tichorinus*), and the Reindeer. The mammoth roamed in herds over the whole of Europe, Northern Asia, and even North America. The hairy, or two-horned rhinoceros, in company with another two-horned species, thundered through the forests, or wallowed in the jungles and swamps. The rivers and lakes of Southern Europe were tenanted by hippopotami and beavers—the former as huge and unwieldy, and with tusks as large as any which terrify the African Bushman. Three kinds of wild oxen, two of which were of colossal strength, and one of these “maned and villous like the Bonassus,” grazed with the marmot, and wild goat, and chamois upon the plains which skirt the Mediterranean. The musk-ox and the reindeer browsed in the meadows of Perigord, in the south of France, while a gigantic elk (*Megaceros hibernicus*) ranged from Ireland to the borders of Italy (Fig. 99).