

deposits, he discussed the Glacial period in reference to man's appearance in Europe, and the origin of species as bearing on man's place in nature.¹ Huxley followed with a separate work on the 'Evidence as to Man's Place in Nature' (1863).

These, indeed, were stirring times, both as regards evolution in general and the age and origin of man. The animated debates at scientific meetings, and the discussions in the public press, were humorously summed up, in 1863, in 'A Report of a Sad Case recently tried before the Lord Mayor, Owen *versus* Huxley, in which will be found fully given the merits of the great recent Bone Case.'²

The question of a type of flint implement earlier and ruder than the palæolithic, and since termed eolithic, was brought before the Society in 1889 and 1891 by Sir Joseph Prestwich, who called attention to the remarkable discoveries made by Mr. Benjamin Harrison, of Ightham, of these enigmatic implements. The higher antiquity assigned to these specimens, and the artificial designing of many of them, although supported by a number of authorities, including Dr. H. P. Blackmore, have been disputed by others, amongst whom are Sir John Evans, and our Foreign Correspondent, Professor Marcellin Boule.³

Huxley, who became a Fellow of the Society in 1856, and secretary in 1859, was requested in 1862 to prepare the Anniversary Address in the unavoidable absence abroad of the president, Leonard Horner. He then delivered his famous address on 'Contemporaneity and Homotaxis' (similarity of order); and dealt also with the meagre evidence then afforded by the geological record of progressive development in organic forms. He argued from the present geographical distribution of life in provinces

¹ The evidence bearing on the existence of man in the Tertiary period was discussed by Mr. E. T. Newton in 1897, *Proc. Geol. Assoc.*, xv. p. 63.

² Written by George Pycroft, of Exeter, who became F.G.S. in 1865.

³ See also Rev. R. Ashington Bullen, *Geol. Mag.* 1903, p. 102; and F. J. Bennett, 'Ightham: the Story of a Kentish Village and its Surroundings,' 1907.