

opinion that Adam was the earliest created human being. At all times great haste has been manifested by some to make the facts sustain the negative. But every geologist who fully understands the difficulties of the subject, and recollects how many analogous facts, confidently relied upon in years past to prove the great antiquity of man, have been given up as unsatisfactory, will be very cautious in respect to new facts. The following positions seem to us capable of satisfactory proof :

1. Man did not appear upon the globe till a very late epoch of the pleistocene or alluvial period.

2. It does not show his pre-Adamic existence to admit that he is found in a fossil state ; since, according to our views, a fossil condition does not prove great age.

3. Nor is that implied if we admit that his remains occur in what some geologists call drift. The true drift occurs only in high latitudes, and when men say that human bones in Egypt, the south of France, or at Natchez, are found in drift, they must mean modified drift, or alluvium ; since no true drift is found in those places, and the age of such drift remains to be proved.

4. Nor are human relics necessarily pre-Adamic because they occur with those of extinct animals. For we have shown that not a few animals, some sixteen species of birds, and some quadrupeds, have become extinct within historic times. The great Cetacean called *Stelleria* seems lately to have disappeared, and the arctic buffalo (*Ovibus moschatus*) is on the point of extinction. But, says Owen, "fossil remains of *Ovibus* and *Stelleria* show that they were cotemporaries of *Elephas primigenius* and *Rhinoceros tichorrhinus*." Are we sure that the mastodon has not lived within historic times ? The Newburgh specimen seems certainly quite recent.

5. If it should turn out that fossil men exist in deposits decidedly older than Adam, they may belong to extinct species, and therefore not prove the pre-Adamic existence of the present race.

6. The creation of man, along with a vast number of cotemporary species of a higher grade than the earth had before seen, and forming the culmination of organic existence on the globe, is the most remarkable fact of geological history, and marks off the alluvial period from all others.

7. This last creation is distinguished from all that have pre-