

domicile belonged to the stone period. Associated, too, with the works of man of the earlier periods, we find in our mosses equally suggestive remains of the *extirpated*, and in some cases of the *extinct* animals, such as gigantic skulls and horns of the *Bos Primigenius* or native ox, and of the *Cervus Megaceros* or Irish elk, with the skeletons of wolves, of beavers, of wild horses, and of bears. There exists what seems to be sufficient evidence that the two extinct animals named the Irish elk and native ox were contemporary with the primitive hunters of the stone period: the cervical vertebræ of a native ox have been found deeply scarred by a stone javelin, and the rib of an Irish elk perforated by a stone arrow-head; and it is known that some of the extirpated animals, such as the wild horse, wolf, and beaver, continued to live among our forests down till a comparatively recent period.¹ We find it stated by Hector Boece in his History, that there were beavers living among our Highland glens even in his days, as late as the year 1526; but there rests a shadow of doubt on the statement. It is unquestionable, however, that the Gaelic name of the creature, *Lasleathin*, or broad-tail, still survives; and equally certain that when Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, journeyed into Wales towards the close of the twelfth century, to incite the Welsh to join in the Crusades, the beaver was engaged in building its coffer domes and log-houses in the river Teivy, Cardiganshire. The wolf and wild horse maintained their place in at least the northern part of the island for several centuries later. When in 1618 Taylor, the water poet, visited Scotland, he accompanied the 'good lord of Mar' on one of his great hunting expeditions among the Grampians; and we find, from the

¹ Many interesting human remains have lately been disinterred from the Severn drift and gravels near Tewkesbury, such as cinerary urns with bones and ashes, and utensils for carrying water, associated with antlers of the red deer.—W. S. S.