

archæology and stepped upon the ground consecrated to the researches of geology.

The chief sources of our information respecting the earliest periods of human history are, 1st. The remains of man himself, which have been found in caves or buried in deposits of gravel or peat. 2d. Human works, of which we have the so-called Druidical remains of Great Britain and other countries, known as dolmens or cromlechs—rude megalithic monuments of unhewn stone, which we now know to be ancient tombs. Other human works more abundant and more universally distributed are implements of war, of the chase, of industry, or of ornament. These are found in gravel-beds along the valleys of rivers or at their mouths; in peat beds; in caves, and among the refuse piles contiguous to the camping or dwelling-places of tribes which subsisted partly upon molluscs. These refuse heaps are composed mostly of shells of recent species, bones of domestic or wild animals suitable for food or service, fragments of pottery, arrow-heads, fish-hooks, stone implements, ornaments, and the like. A vast supply of the relics of primeval man has been obtained from the pile-habitations, or ancient dwellings constructed upon platforms supported by piles driven in the water. The dredging of the bottoms of these lakes has brought to light immense quantities of the remains of pre-historic art and industry. 3d. The manner in which the relics of man are associated with those of other animals enables us to extend to our race many of the generalizations deduced in reference to the earlier history of the existing fauna. Lastly, the nature and magnitude of the geological changes which have transpired during the existence of man throw some light upon the antiquity of the race.

As in the history of organic life in general, so in the geological history of man, we find him mounting from lower