

mounds of artificial origin in the Mississippi valley have excited much attention. The early archæology of these regions is full of interest.

In South America, the loams of the Pampas have furnished abundant remains of horses, tapirs, lamas, mastodons, wolves, panthers, with gigantic extinct sloths and armadilloes (*Megatherium*, *Glyptodon*).⁷⁸

Australasia.—No line can be drawn in this region between accumulations of the present time and those which have been called Pleistocene. The modern alluvia have been formed under similar conditions to those under which the older alluvia were laid down, though possibly with some differences of climate. In New South Wales, ossiferous caverns contain bones of the extinct marsupial animals mentioned on p. 1676, mingled with those of some of the species which are still living in the same places. In one locality in the same colony, in sinking a well, teeth of crocodiles were found with bones of *Diprotodon*, etc. No human remains have yet been found associated with those of the extinct animals; but a stone hatchet was taken out of alluvium at a depth of 14 feet.⁷⁹

In New Zealand, the most interesting feature in the younger geological accumulations is the presence of the bones of the large bird *Dinornis*, which has become extinct since the Maoris peopled the islands. The evidences of the human occupation of the country are confined to the surface-soil, shelter-caves, and sand-dunes.⁸⁰

⁷⁸ See Florentino Ameghino, "La Antiquedad del Hombre en el Plata," where a good account of the Pampas country will be found.

⁷⁹ C. S. Wilkinson, "Notes on Geology of New South Wales, 1891," p. 52.

⁸⁰ Hector, "Handbook of New Zealand," p. 25.