

of flint implements in the neighbourhood of Thetford and Santon Downham.

Lyell, as might be expected, was intensely interested in the new discoveries; he made many expeditions to study the facts on the ground, and diligently set to work on his 'Antiquity of Man.' In February 1863 he published the first edition of this work, and so much public attention did it attract that a second edition was issued in April, and a third in November of the same year. The fourth edition was not published until 1873. Sir John Lubbock (now Lord Avebury) also took particular interest in the study of Early Man, and produced in 1865 his 'Prehistoric Times,' of which several editions have been issued.

The publication of Lyell's 'Antiquity of Man' roused some indignation on the part of Falconer and Prestwich, who ventilated their views in the *Athenæum* for April 1863. They felt that Lyell's 'treatment of the history of the subject was in important respects so meagre that the labours of the original investigators were not made manifest.' The criticisms were not without justification, although, as remarked in the 'Life' of Prestwich, 'Lyell was naturally regarded as the judge who could better than any other geologist sum up the evidence and place it clearly and intelligibly before those who had no special scientific knowledge.'¹ He had, it is true, personally studied the evidence, and in the end he recast and amplified, to the satisfaction of all, his history of research among cavern and river deposits.

Special interest in the origin and antiquity of man had naturally been created by Darwin's 'Origin of Species,' published in 1859, a volume which had led to a revolution in the views on this subject; and Huxley, in referring to the 'Principles of Geology,' remarked that Lyell was 'the chief agent in smoothing the path for Darwin.'² In his 'Antiquity of Man,' Lyell dealt not only with the evidence yielded by the remains found in Pleistocene

¹ 'Life and Letters of Prestwich,' 1899, p. 176.

² 'Life and Letters of Huxley,' 1900, p. 168.