

two vertical, and the transverse sections, and the lacunæ of the Stonesfield fossil; with the sections of the heron and Pterodactyle bones for comparison. Of these figures, 13, 14, 15, 16 are magnified 300 diameters; the remainder 75 diameters.

(To be continued.)

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### *Human Remains and Flint Hatchets.*

SIR,—Some weeks ago, in passing hurriedly through Normandy, I visited the museum of the ancient town of Bayeux, and was surprised to see in the same glass-case several flint-hatchets, etc., and various human bones. I anxiously made inquiry of the ancient librarian in the room, who, with sparkling eyes, gave ready utterance to his satisfaction at my notice of the contents of the case, and entered fully into a relation of their discovery; of which the following is the substance of a lengthy communication to the editor of 'L'Écho Bayeusain' of the 24th July, 1863, by Éd. Lambert St.-A. Duvant. I am unaware whether this paper is known to the British geologists; if it be not known, perhaps you will publish this communication, and draw attention to this locality; for it appears to me that this discovery, if fully verified, supplies the desideratum alluded to by Sir Charles Lyell in the following passage:—"It is naturally a matter of no small surprise, that after we have collected many hundred flint-impliments (including knives, many thousands), not a single human bone has yet been met with in the alluvial sand and gravel in any of the parts of Europe where the tool-bearing drift of the Post-Pliocene period has been investigated in valley deposits." (Lyell, 'Antiquity of Man,' p. 144.)

Augustin Gilbert, a labourer, was occupied in excavating earth for the repair of a road (in the month of March, 1863), near the hamlet of Pont-Roch, on a portion of the territory of "D'Andrieu, called Les Perrelles," close to the banks of the river Seulle; and at the depth of 1 foot 10 inches below the surface, he discovered the remains of a human skeleton, near which was found a deer horn, lying by the upper part of the femur, and higher up, towards the skull, two flint-hatchets close together; a tusk of an old boar, measuring  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in circumference, and a portion of a flint knife, of which only  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches remain of the blade, which is slightly curved at its upper extremity, is still very sharp on both sides; one face is flat, the other has two longitudinal grooves. The flint-hatchets are coated with an opaque substance; they are of different dimensions, quite polished, and worked with remarkable skill; the strongest is 6 inches by a width of  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches on the cutting edge, diminishing to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch at the other end. The smallest,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches long, with  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch on the cutting edge, reducing to  $\frac{5}{8}$  of an inch at the other end. The knife is of the same class, as regards the working of the material. The human remains are in a good state of preservation; one part of the maxillary bone contained seven perfectly sound teeth. The body was lying with its head towards the rising and the feet to the setting sun.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
PATRICK FRASER, M.D.

63, Grosvenor Street, Grosvenor Square,  
December 12th, 1863.