

must have constituted highly bituminous limestones and shales, the volatile matter of which had probably been dissipated and the carbon brought into the state of graphite, before the commencement of the Silurian period. In evidence that such a change might be effected without any great amount of heat, he adduced the fact that in the Devonian rocks of New Brunswick, trunks of trees and even the most delicate leaves of ferns have been converted into graphite without obliterating their structure.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—15th December.—Dr. James Hunt, President, in the Chair.—Dr. Carter Blake, F.G.S., Hon. Memb. A.S.L., made a communication on the skull, jaw, and limb-characters afforded by the specimens recently discovered at Cro-Magnon (Les Eyzies), France, and contrasted them with those of similar, and in one case greater, age from the Belgian bone-caves. He pointed out that whilst the Belgian caves afforded evidence of man in some degree pithecoïd, yet, on the whole, exaggerating the characters of the lower Slavonian races; the French remains were entirely *sui generis*, and were those of men who, although presenting some simial characters, yet, in cerebral capacity, were superior to most existing races, and in some respects resembled the Celtic crania of the present day.

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### CORRESPONDENCE.

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#### GLACIERS IN SOUTH DEVON.

SIR,—As the question whether there are traces of glacial action in Devon is occasionally mooted, I send a few lines relating to that point. My own practical acquaintance with Glaciers is confined to one hurried visit to Switzerland, and on that account I did not venture in my paper "On the Geology of the Valleys of the Upper part of the River Teign and its feeders" (Quarterly Journal, vol. xxiii. p. 418), to ascribe any of the gravels, or transported rocks, to that cause, but named the gravel, deposited before the "re-excavation" of the valley, "old gravels." Since the meeting of the British Association, an eminent continental geologist paid me a visit to examine the granite of Dartmoor, and on passing a place where the "old gravel" is exposed, said, "this is a Moraine; a Swedish or a Swiss geologist would say this is a Moraine." He examined other "old gravel" sections, and gave similar opinions on the spot, which he confirmed on further consideration, and on examining the map of the district; for "old gravels," therefore, the word "moraines" may probably be substituted. I do not feel justified in publishing the name of my friend, as I omitted to ask his permission so to do, but enclose it for your private satisfaction; and I trust that your readers will rely on me when I say that he was a well-known Professor, on whose opinion the most eminent geologists would place the greatest reliance.

G. WAREING ORMEROD.

CHAGFORD, EXETER,