chiefly with the archæologist, and this is to be determined by their types, the presence of other industrial products, or the circumstances under which they are found, though occasionally the associated animal-remains give some clue to their antiquity. In the next more ancient, or Cave-period, an age prior to the construction of habitations for the living, or of receptacles for the dead, and in which the traces of other and more advanced industries are but rare, the task of indicating their antiquity falls mainly on the palæontologist, and the fauna (sometimes of animals extinct locally prior to either history or tradition, but whose remains are found in indubitable association with those works of man) is his only certain guide—the more so, as sometimes the types of the implements found on the same spot take a wide range, from those until lately supposed peculiar to the Drift, and down to those hitherto assigned to the earlier part of the Surface-period. In the earliest period, that of the Drift, the archæologist finds not the slightest trace of other human industry to guide him; and the work of the palæontologist is less determinate; it rests with the geologist, by indicating the changes which have occurred in the very land itself, to shadow out the period in the dim distance of that far antiquity when these implements, the undoubted work of human hands, were used and left there by primeval man.—*Reliquiæ Aquitanicæ*, Part II.

OBITUARY.

Dr. Nils Nordenskiöld.—We have to record the death of this eminent mineralogist and geologist at Frugard, near Helsingfors, Finland, on the 21st February, in his 73rd year. Dr. Nordenskiöld was a pupil of Berzelius, and from an early age devoted himself to the study of mineralogy. After having made several scientific visits to foreign countries, he was, in 1824, appointed by the Emperor of Russia chief director of the mines of Finland, in which office he continued until 1855. In recognition of his scientific merits, he was elected a fellow of several foreign societies, amongst others the Geological and Geographical Societies of London. One of his last and most important labours is a map of Finland, showing the direction of the flutes and grooves made by the ice on the surface of the rocks. It is accompanied by a memoir "Beitrag zur Kentniss der Schrammen in Finland," Helsingfors, 1863. (See Sir Roderick I. Murchison's Anniversary Address to the Geographical Society, 1864, p. 236). His labours as a mineralogist in Finland are noticed in a paper "On the Rocks and Minerals of Finland," by the late Mr. G. E. Roberts, F.G.S. (see Geological Magazine, Vol. II., p. 534). One of his surviving sons is Professor Adolf Nordenskiöld of Stockholm, the ardent explorer of Spitzbergen and its geology.—G.L.

Dr. C. T. Gaudin, of Lausanne.—Intelligence of the death of this eminent Swiss geologist has just reached us. He was well-known as the author of many original papers, principally relating to the fossil plants of Italy. In 1863 he was elected a foreign correspondent of the Geological Society of London.