

beyond that date to fix the time of their probable origin.

The use of the terms "Stone Age" and "Bronze Age" is vague. These "Ages" have not yet ceased any more than has the "Age of Iron" or any other useful metal.

As some savages, low in the scale of civilization know the use of metals, it is quite impossible to fix the time of transition from the use of one metal to that of another. In Europe, the rudest implements of stone are found mingled promiscuously with bronze implements of good workmanship. This suggests the possibility of their introduction into those parts by the early Phœnician traders.

CAIUS.

A GLIMPSE OF FRANCE.

It is not my intention to weary the reader with numerous details of uninteresting scenes and personages; but to give, as briefly as possible, only a very few of the many sights and sensations that could not fail to arrest the attention of a stranger visiting Paris and the vicinity.

At the station you are obliged to run the usual gauntlet of guides and hotel runners, each of whom, will conduct you wherever you *have*, or have *not*, a mind to go, and all eager to test the depth of your purse. Plenty of money is an absolute necessity to a traveller who wishes to insure to himself even a tolerable degree of comfort.

In Paris many women are engaged in occupations which might be considered "out of their sphere" in this country. The larger portion of clerks in the retail establishments are women; and in nearly all, women are employed as book-keepers. They are engaged as general supervisors in cafes and restaurants, and in many of the railway stations, as ticket agents. They follow the courses of lectures to obtain their degrees as A. B., B. L., or B. S. Excellent opportunities for obtaining valuable information by means of lect-

ures, are given at all hours of the day as well as in the evening.

A lover of literature, science, law or medicine can, at any time, listen to an address from the Immaculate Conception down to "bread making." These lectures are free to all as the expenses are met by the government. No city is so well supplied with public hospitals as Paris. All the passport needed is the fact of being sick or requiring surgical treatment. The very best medical attendance is provided, and the sisters of St. Vincent and other Catholic orders, hover around the sick like angels of mercy, performing various other little offices that will lighten the sufferings of many. There is no life of indolent worship, or a mere counting of beads, but one of ceaseless toil and aid to all, regardless alike of clime, creed, or color.

Under the city of Paris, occupying one tenth part, is an immense excavation once used as the secreting place for the booty of thieves and robbers, who sought refuge from justice, in these hidden galleries.

These excavations, Catacombs as they are called, have been in existence from a remote period and were formed by removing the stones to build the houses of Paris.

About a hundred years ago, it was ordered that the remains in several of the city cemeteries be removed to the Catacombs. This was done, the work being performed at night. The most of the bones were piled without any regularity, save that those from one cemetery formed one pile. In 1810 however, a regular systematizing began and the bones were built up between the walls. Now, every five years the remains of the unknown poor are removed to the Catacombs to make room for the crowding dead. One of the many entrances is through a door-way and down a spiral stone staircase of ninety steps. At the foot is a tunnel three feet wide and six feet high. The whole of this subterranean city is laid out in streets with the name cut in the rock.