

**ARCHÆOLOGICAL REPORT, 1898.
BEING PART OF APPENDIX TO
THE REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF
EDUCATION ONTARIO, PP. 1-209**

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ARCHÆOLOGICAL REPORT

1898

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OF THE

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

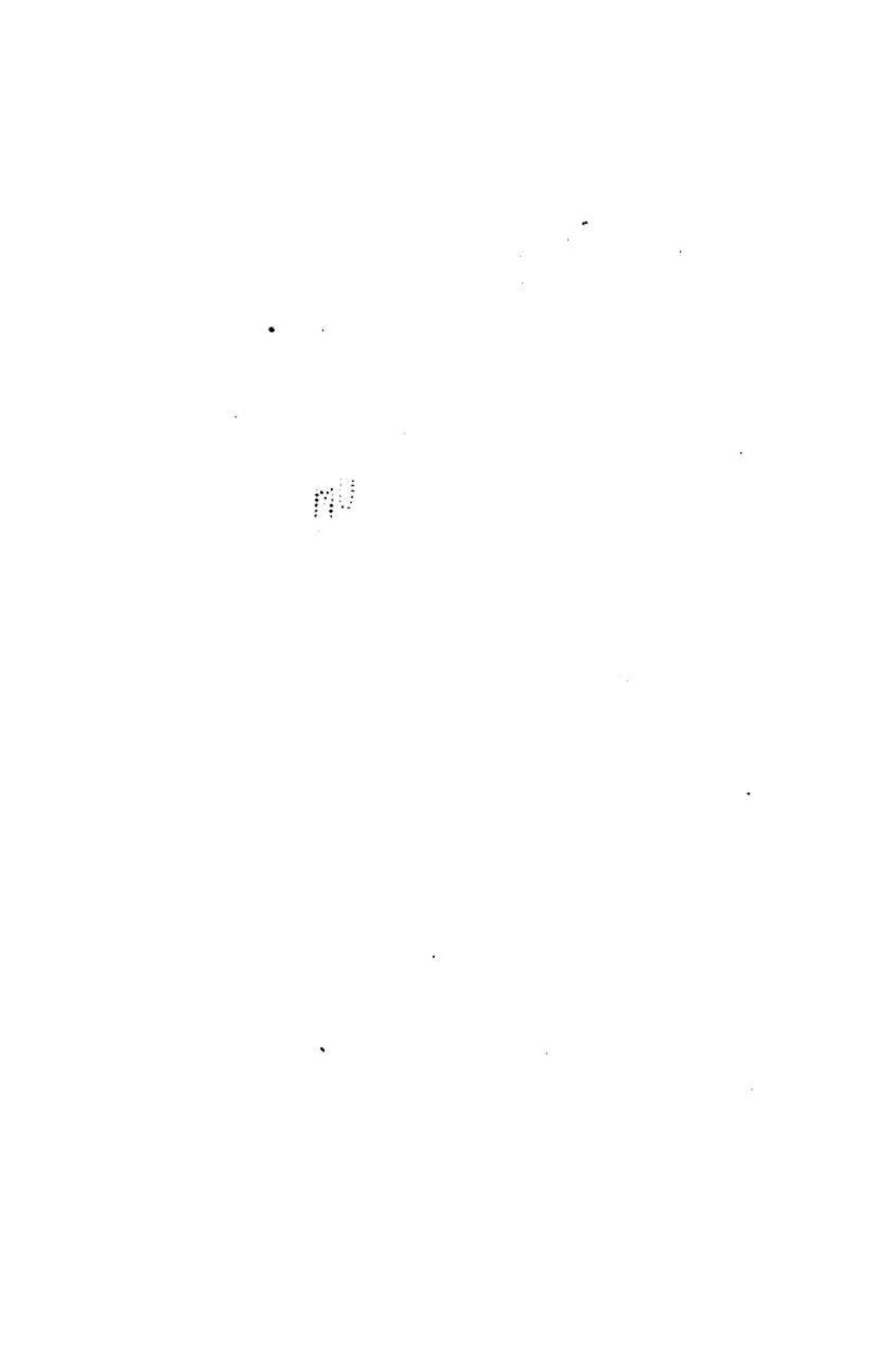
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1898.



"There has been a time in the history of every nation when the only supplement to the organs of the body for the uses of Man were the stones in the field and the sticks of the forest. To use these natural, abundant, and portable objects, was an obvious resource with early tribes. If mind dawned in the past at all, it is with such objects that we should expect its first associations, and as a matter of fact it seems everywhere to have been so. Relics of a Stick Age would of course be obliterated by time, but traces of a Stone Age have been found, not in connection with the first beginnings (*sic*), of a few tribes only, but with the first beginnings—from the point that any representation is possible—of probably every nation in the world. The wide geographical use of stone implements is one of the most striking facts in Anthropology. Instead of being confined to a few peoples, and to outlying districts, as is sometimes asserted, their distribution is universal. They are found throughout the length and breadth of Europe, and on all its islands; they occur everywhere in Western Asia, and north of the Himalayas. In the Malay Peninsula they strew the ground in endless numbers; and again, in Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia, the New Hebrides and the Coral Islands of the Pacific. Known in China, they are scattered broadcast throughout Japan, and the same is true of America. . . . If a child playing with a toy spade is a proof that it is a child, a nation working with stone axes is proved to be a child-nation. Erroneous conclusions may easily be drawn, and indeed have been, from the fact of a nation using stone, but the general law stands. Partly, perhaps, by mutual intercourse, this use of stone becomes universal, but it arose more likely, from the similarity in primitive needs, and the available means of gratifying them. Living under widely different conditions, and in every variety of climate, all early peoples shared the instincts of humanity which first called in the use of tools and weapons. All felt the same hunger; all had the instinct of self-preservation; and the universality of these instincts and the commonness of stone led the groping mind to fasten upon it, and make it one of the first steps to the Arts. A Stone Age, thus, was the natural beginning. In the nature of things there could have been no earlier. If Mind really grew by infinitely gradual ascents, the exact situation the theory requires is here provided in actual fact."

Henry Drummond, LL.D., F.R.S.E., F.G.S. (author of "*Natural Law in the Spiritual World*") in *The Ascent of Man*, pp. 139-140.

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