

# HARPER'S WEEKLY

## JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION

VOL. XVII.—No. 864.]

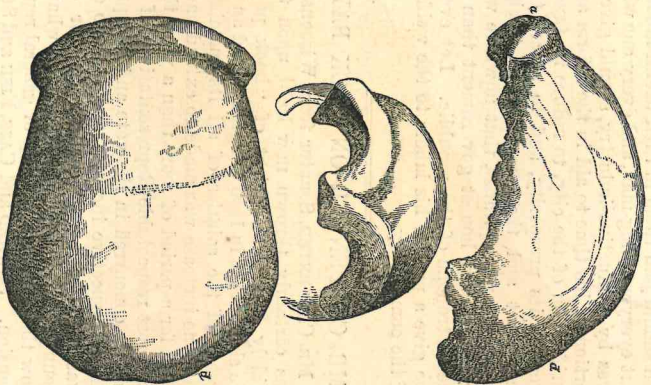
NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1873.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the Year 1873, by Harper & Brothers, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

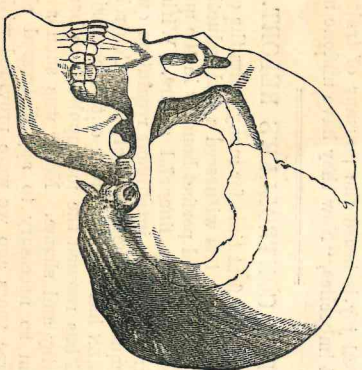
[WITH A SUPPLEMENT.  
PRICE TEN CENTS.]

### THE NEANDERTHAL MAN.

HUMAN bones are now and then found in caves, and their occurrence, under ordinary circumstances, is not deemed a very important matter in itself; but if these remains are of undoubted great antiquity, and exhibit characters indicating the existence of peculiarities in the physical conformation of man in by-gone ages, their discovery becomes notable in science. Such an event happened in 1857, when accident brought the Neanderthal skeleton to light. The Neanderthal (Neander Valley) is a wild ravine, in Devonian limestone, in the valley of the Düsseldorf, near Elberfeld, in Rhenish Prussia. Quarrying operations in the Neanderthal led to the exploration of a small grotto occurring in the steep southern side of the ravine, and elevated about sixty feet above the bed of the river. The grotto contained a horizontal layer of hard loam, intermixed with fragments of brown rolled gravel, a diluvial or drift deposit identical with that which occurs in all caves of the Düsseldorf Valley; and in which the bones of extinct quadrupeds are sometimes found imbedded. In this gravelly loam of the Neanderthal grotto the workmen found, two feet below the surface, a human skeleton, which they threw out in an unceremonious way, and which doubtless would have been lost to science but for the interference of Professor Fuhlrott of Elberfeld, who rescued from total destruction the upper part of the skull, the thigh and arm bones, a collar-bone, a portion of the pelvis, the shoulder-blade, and several fragments of the ribs. These remains are undoubtedly of the highest antiquity, possessing, in general, the same qualities which characterize the bones of the



SKULL OF NEANDERTHAL MAN.

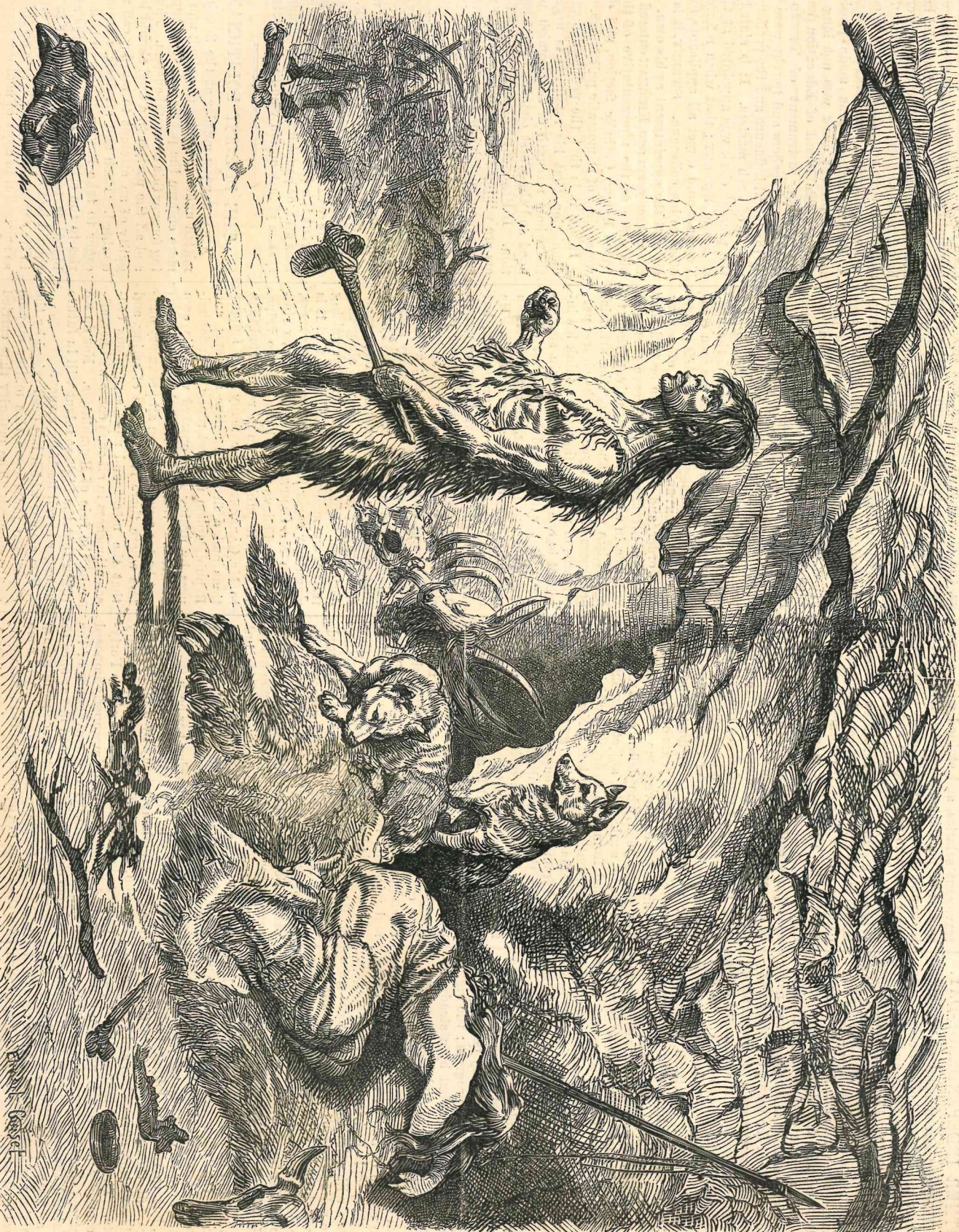


SCHILLER'S SKULL.

Neanderthal cranium (the upper part), one as viewed in profile, another from in front, and a third from above. We also introduce a normal Caucasian skull, in order to show the contrast. The Neanderthal skull was first described anatomically by Professor SCHALLERHAUSEN, of Bonn. He pointed out its enormous ridges (a) above the orbit of the eyes, behind which the frontal bone is

thorologists, therefore conclude that the Neanderthal man lived together with the mammoth and other extinct animals of the drift period. The body had evidently been washed into the grotto with the mud and pebbles during high water, and remained there undisturbed for thousands of years, until its osseous frame was exposed in our day to the gaze of the curious. We give three views of the portion saved of

considerably depressed; its elongated, elliptical shape, narrow and low forehead, sloping occiput (b), and unusual thickness. The capacity of the skull has been calculated to be about equal to that of the average Polynesian and Hottentot cranium. The other bones of the skeleton were found to resemble in length those of a European of middle stature; but they are much stouter, and exhibit a greater development of the muscular ridges—peculiarities that have likewise been noticed in the limb bones of Patagonians and other savages exposed to a rigorous climate. On the whole, Professor SCHALLERHAUSEN comes to the conclusion that the individual to whom the Neanderthal skull belonged must have been distinguished by slight development of brain and uncommon strength of bodily frame. According to Professor HUXLEY, the skull in question is the most ape-like of the human crania yet discovered; and Professor VOET expresses himself to the same effect by stating that it has more of the simian or monkey type than any other known race skull. Yet Huxley regards the Neanderthal bones as by no means the remains of a being intermediate between man and apes. At most, he says, they demonstrate the existence of a man whose skull may be said to revert somewhat to the pithecioid or ape type. Both Huxley and Voet detect in the Neanderthal skull an approximation to the criminal formation of the Australians. There are no indications that the skull has undergone any change by artificial means during the infancy of the individual; nor does the view advanced by Dr. BARNARD DAVIS, that it is merely an abnormal pelvis, seem to have found much favor. Criminal deformations are, and



THE NEANDERTHAL MAN.