

It is impossible to enter in detail into the important results of modern investigation of diluvial deposits, the more general aspects have been fully treated in a previous chapter (cf. pp. 220-239). Many of the questions are subjects of controversy at the present time, such as the origin of the Loess deposits, the number of distinct Ice Ages, the geographical distribution of glacial formations, and the age and significance of the various pebble, sand, and clay formations. Curiously enough, the youngest of the geological formations was the last to be generally understood, and its scientific investigation is a conspicuous feature of the present phase of progress in geology.

The question of the age of the human race, and the environment of early man, brings geology into the closest relationship with anthropology, and for the last four decades geology has done what it could to assist in the solution of the great problems associated with the beginnings of human life upon the earth's surface.