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28 Jermyn Street

London

3 September 1868

Dear M. Lartet,

Your note has anticipated in great part the very subject about which I intended to write to you. For the last 6 months I have been led to doubt the Pliocene or even preglacial age of *E. primigenius* in Britain and now after an examination of all the evidence have arrived at the fact that there is no proof of its appearance in our Island before the glacial epoch. I take the animal to be far excellence post glacial, and one of the most valuable and widely spread

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one sequence. Stephano present in two not
too found in the Forest Red, all the specimens
preserving to have been thus derived, having really
been washed up by the sea, - probably from a much
later deposit now forming a dangerous shoal off
the coast of Norfolk and Suffolk, where R. trichobatus
and Hydras shells have also been obtained. S. antipus
on the other hand occurs along with S. meridionalis
in the Forest Red.

Stephano meridionalis occurs along with Maclurei
meridionalis in the "story" or "Maclurei Red" that
underlies the Forest Red. Its occurrence is as follows.

characteristic fossils of that epoch.
 Professor Owen has invariably
 confused Pliocene and Quaternary
 together, and therefore the true
 geological horizon cannot be
 arrived at for a study of the
 Paleontology or the Fossil mammals.

Grays Shurrock (described
 at length in my essay on the
 Lower Brickearth, which you have)
 forms one of a series of deposits
 in the east of England which represent
 a passage between the pre- and
 the post-glacial Faunas, and
 which are remarkable for the
 absence of the Reindeer, and the
 presence of preglacial or Southern
 forms. I hope in the course of the
 year to send you my views of the

Horslead - Norwich

2 Marine sands & gravels



Mastodon or stony bed. Old land surface
chalk with flints

The stony bed (1) rests on the weather-
-ed surface of the chalk, and in
my opinion bears no closer relation-
-ship to the marine sands above,
than the Forest bed does to the
marine silt now being deposited in
the German sea. All the perfect
unrolled bones of Terrestrial mam-
-mals are derived from the stony bed,
all the rolled fragments and marine
mammals from the marine sands and
gravels above. These views are shared in
by our friend the Rev. J. Geun, and
were endorsed by the high authority of
Mr. Godwin-Austen when I propounded
them before the Association. Nevertheless
several of our savants hold other fancies

Also can you tell me whether you have ever met with C. dama in a Roman refuse-heap, or in any older deposit? In the South I ought to be Lateranum. Here it is either Roman or post-Roman. I have ~~correlated~~ correlated the Prehistoric earthen hearth-~~logs~~ and alluvia in Britain with the Bronze and Stone ages.

in Britain. Can you do the same in France? My essay is to be printed in the next publication of the International Congress.

I find no evidence to prove a higher antiquity than the Stone age for the sheep, goat or Bos longipennis in Western Europe.

I regret ~~extremely~~ extremely that I was unable to see much more than a

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I want to express that I
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which I cannot endorse, and
 classify the old land-surface,
 and the marine formation as
 belonging to one and the same
 epoch. The only terrestrial mammals
 for the Stony bed (vulgo "Crag") that
 have as yet been determined ~~for~~
 are *Elephas meridionalis*, *Mastodon Amer-*
-neusii, *Rhinoceros Schlegelii* (there
 is no doubt of this, for I have carefully analyzed
 all the remains) *Sus. Heppharini*, *Equus*,
Felis, *Procyon*, and sundry remarkable
 forms of *Cervidae* and one of *Hyaena* (so
 called *antiqua*, *Lankestera*). Professor Owen's
C. diransensis, *Hamb.* is usually determined
 the author belonging really to an animal
 of the *Asiatic* or *Prusa* type.

I cannot help taking *Cervus Sledgei*
 of Falconer, ^(Memoirs *veii*) to be identical with *C.*
maritimus of M. Gervais. Can you help
 me to an opinion?

Sketch of Mr. Lewis Tait. I was staying five miles out of Norwich and was compelled to call late as quickly as possible before the Lord's service began and the intercommunal Congress.

Mr. Brough's paper's title is hardly so specifically identical with mine as that I have met with in England, and which will surely be also noted. I have not two small ones in N. shires and S. provinces.

Yours truly
Mr. Lewis Tait
Mr. Tait
Mr. Tait & Co