

Maidstone Museum

Benjamin Harrison Archive

Volume 14

The date of this volume, as indicated on the first page on the top right hand corner is June 1896 to September 1897. As is the norm for most of the notebooks, BH mixes daily diary entries with copied extracts from journals and books. He follows his usual practice of starting another set of entries, in this instance not numbered and all devoted to the life and work of the – then - recently deceased Sir Joseph Prestwich, from the back of the volume. There are several original letters from Prestwich to BH, in writing every bit as indecipherable as BH's often is. The hand of Edward Harrison is discernable throughout, adding the year to BH's day and month entries. BH's writing throughout this notebook is particularly difficult to read and there are more gaps in the transcription/annotation than has been the case in the preceding volumes as a result of this.]

Fly-leaf, unnumbered page. Two faded photographs, The photographs show The George and Dragon, with a sign attached to the building indicating that at the time of the photograph, the establishment is a commercial bicycle hotel. The second photograph shows BH and one of his daughters standing in an open plot of land, which this writer believes to be either adjacent to his house or part of his garden. The church tower is just visible and the growth of the hedgerows indicate the site of the Shode as it flowed through Ightham, and to the north east of Old Stones [his house] before taking a more south easterly direction in the dip of the main road by Ightham Place. The third photograph shows BH and one of his daughters standing by the now demolished cottage that was part of his property. The camera points towards 'Old Stones' and the Tonbridge Road as it passes BH's house to join Bates Hill.

P.1. Above this is a quote from Lord Avebury who says: 'A lunch of bread and cheese after a good walk is more enjoyable than a Lord Mayor's feast'. Below the photograph is one of Josh Billings's aphorisms '...one might with propriety ask what's the use of knowing so much if what you know ain't so?'

Edward Harrison [EH] has written under the photograph that it was reproduced in black and white in November 1897. In BH's hand is a list of Institutes and departments of famous museums:

- Smithsonian Institute
- Field Museum, Chicago
- Archaeological Dept: Boston Museum
- Curator of the Museum of the State University, Bloomington
- Curator of the Museum of Irawash College, Ind[iana]

Three small clippings, one about a talk or article about earth 'sculture'[sic] – OKAY? and the origins of land forms by James Geikie. Another about Sir Algernon West, one

about [OKAY?] Queen Victoria's reign, followed by a two-verse poem about being human.

Notes from Sunday June 7th 1896 in which BH records that he spent most of the day sketching but went with Ted to Wrotham, Park Farm, Platt, Claygate and Basted in the evening. On Sunday June 14th Abbott and BH walked to Exedown Coombe gathering orchids. They explored Mr Evelyn's flint quarry to examine the drift bed from where they went to the pit dug on the crown of the escarpment. There Abbott got down on all fours and closely examined the ground. BH notes the mottled clay and Abbott's examination of the Lenham beds. BH suggests a visit to Lenham. From there they went to Wrotham where they have a cup of tea at the Crown after which Abbott left on the 5.58 train.

On June 21st 1896, BH spent all day at home as it was hot. In the evening he walked to Ivy Cottage followed by Mrs H who chatted to Mrs Davies. BH waited in the garden watching the glorious sunset and, due to it setting over Shoreham, thought of '...the weak invalid, the long watch, the tender nurse and... the sun going down in splendour'. He is referring to Professor Prestwich who by this time was frail and in a terminal state of decline.

In the margin a short note to records the visit of Mr Dennis, from Strood and his American wife as well as 'Young Mr Barker'.

P. 1a. Tuesday June 23rd 1896. Wires from Loveland and R. Bullen announcing Sir Joseph's death at 5.30 am. On Wednesday of that week there was heavy rain, which BH describes as 'a perfect satisfying rainfall'.

On Saturday June 26th 1896 the funeral of Sir Joseph Prestwich took place. BH went by train to Shoreham on what was a very hot day. Met Mr Pollard at the station from whom he obtained the particulars of a report [no details]. He dined with the geologists in tent at the George where he sat next and chatted to, a nephew of Sir Joseph [Prestwich]. He shook hands with Dr Hicks and encouraged him to 'follow the footsteps of Professor Prestwich and you will do well'. At the station whilst waiting for the train BH saw Sir John Evans approach; he was the first to appear and walked quickly along the station, reaching BH as he was about to board the train. Evans shook BH's hands 'heartily' but, as the train was on the move, all BH could only say was 'I am pleased to have met you Sir John'. There follow some passages from Psalm 39, about keeping one's counsel and guarding against a loose tongue.

P. 2. On Sunday June 28th 1896 it became very dark in the middle of the day as a result of a thunderstorm, so dark that BH had to light the lamp. He used this time to sketch cave specimens. At 11.30 however, he 'sallied forth' for an hour and a half during which time he examined the gravels and searched for implements in Beadles Hop garden. Of this he says 'Not a particle of evidence of old old work'. At 5pm he once more went out, this time to the hill top, where he met Mr. Evelyn at the pit. Mr Evelyn promised to 'pace down the pipe' with BH.¹ They note that Professor

¹ This must refer to measuring a geological feature on the North Downs. Each 'pace' would have been translated into feet allowing for a rough measurement to have been estimated.

Prestwich had given the high level drift some thought in the last part of his life. They went on to the Pit field where they found an accepted implement and one ochreous flake as well as 'a good many rudes' and some Oldbury stone. Joined by Mr. Potter from St. Clere who also searched with them and also returned to search again some days later.

A Copy of a letter from Mr. James, Curator of Maidstone Museum, dated 29th June 1896 to Major Luard Selby.

'... Mr Ralph Fremlin² has handed to me your letter to him relating to the acquisition by this institution of a series of the Eolithic implements in the possession of Mr. B. Harrison of Ightham. That this is desirable goes without saying, seeing that our Museum is the County institution, but up to the present time, although I have had a great deal [OKAY?]of correspondence and many interviews with the owner of the relics I have been unable to get Mr. Harrison to state what he would dispose of a series or collection for! The matter has been before me for the past 4-5 years and I was one of the first to visit and express my opinion on the character of the Plateau implements.

I have repeatedly asked Mr. Harrison to draw up...

P.3. Continued from previous page:

... a numbered list of specimens he would like to come here with the localities added also naming a piece so that I might have something definite to bring before members of my committee.

No word as to price has ever been named between us. I wanted long ago to include a sum in this years estimated expenditure for there are questions of the specimens but this latter not being forthcoming, the matter fell through.

I must have a strong case if the matter comes before the committee and in order to do this, I am sure you will agree with me, that I must have something to go upon, seeing that our finances are [OKAY?] so restricted just now.

Months ago I told Mr. Harrison that if he would send me a detailed list (long before the filtration process set in) together with the prices I would do everything in my power to acquire it, even to the extent of appealing to the county, if that was all. Do you know what is asked for a representative collection of Plateau finds?'

Sunday July 5th 1896 was another hot day. Mr and Mrs Davies visited BH and stayed at Mr. Farlan's. BH spent some time putting his garret in order until Abbott arrived and they had a good look through BH's Lenham and Well Hill boxes. After this the inevitable walk was taken, this time to Exedown chalk pit where he, Ted and Abbott

² Mr Fremlin was a member of the brewing family whose name is perpetuated in the Fremlin Walk Shopping Centre, which is on the site of the old brewery.

found some ‘Thenayites’³ in the talus down the hill. They take a careful look at the pipe on the crown [of the hill] after which they made their way to Mr. Evelyn’s by a slightly circuitous route in which they pass Peckham Wood corner. On a currant plot they find what BH describes as ‘convincing Thenayites’ two of which he sketched on this page [they are numbered 4536 and 4535].

P. 4. Continues from previous page. BH and walking companions continue across the valley to Cooper’s Patch, 583 [OD] where they found ‘a few’ [eoliths presumably] and from there they continued on to the Horse and Groom for tea. BH gives a description of the trees in Cooper’s Wood as seen from the escarpment as they make their way home. That BH has had a good day is evident from the foregoing but made explicit ‘...a perfect day and results good as evidently those old humans belong to a tertiary deposit’.

The following day, when rooting out a lot of old books BH came across *Childe Harold’s Pilgrimage* in which he says were quotations from Philpott’s *History of Kent*. He first borrowed this book from his mother-in-law, Mrs Rogers, and in which he found a note that he thought applied to himself. It was a quotation from Goethe which read ‘Our first business is neither to praise or blame but simply to understand’.

July 12th 1896. Walking in the evening when it was cooler, the day spent sketching.

July 19th 1896. By train to Sevenoaks with Elsie, from where BH met the [members of the] Toynbee Hall Natural History Society. They walked through Knole Park to Godden Green and Hall Farm, St Lawrence and the Fish Ponds, through Middle Wood and the rocks. He left the group at Mount Pleasant. The company rejoined him at 4 to view implements laid out in the garden and in his museum. Out again to Styants Bottom from where McFarlane made his way home.

On the 17th July 1896 the Reverend Brown came to inspect the implements accompanied by General Luard. Reverend Brown referred to a friend, Dr. Phene who had visited BH some 15 years ago to see the collection.

As it was a wet day on Sunday July 26th 1896, BH engaged in a general tidy of the museum between 7am and 7pm. Walked in the evening.

On Tuesday 14th July BH received a visit from Dr Allen Sturge as well as one from the Hon Librarian of the Glasgow Geological Society, Mr. J. Mc Allen, who was accompanied by Mr Glen.

P. 5. Tuesday July 28th 1896. BH started out at 10am and walked to the pit field. Describes seeing a ‘...magnificent patch of *Epilobum augustifolium*’. BH describes the colour as ‘vivid’. At West Yoke he called on Hill where he noted his finds of some black Neolithic implements as well as some Palaeolithic flakes. Hill’s brother produced an ochreous Palaeolithic implement. BH then set out for Fawkham and

³ Theynites is the expression used to describe a small eolith that resembled those from Thenay. They are sometimes referred to as ‘microliths’ and care must be taken to distinguish these from Mesolithic stone tools, also referred to by BH in these volumes.

home via Ash. Stopped for tea at the Horse and Groom where Mrs [no name] informed him that Tom Skinner had found a 'beauty', a deep brown Palaeolithic implement which BH, who must have seen this before writing this account because he judged it to be '...a real acquisition'. BH was not at all tired after his long walk.

On August 1st 1896, BH received the Maidstone Natural History Society and the Rochester naturalists also dropped in. Mr. Barry's father's funeral took place that day. BH arranged a large series of stone tools in the garden for the benefit of the visitors. Bensted led the Maidstone group.

Sunday 2nd August 1896 saw BH sketching in the morning and at 5 out walking with Ted to Home Farm, Plaxdale Farm and Parsonage Farm. Mr Potter brought them an *Epilobum augustifolium* specimen whilst they were searching the pit field.

3rd August 1896 (Bank Holiday) BH spent some time gardening after which he retreated to the Museum. In the afternoon he received visitors among whom was Captain Henry Lewis and several friends. The evening involved a visit to Crown Point.

On Wednesday August 5th 1896, despite the cold wind BH walked to Oldbury where he chatted with Williams, whom he describes as 'poorly'. Mentions finding some flakes of palaeolithic age and notes an old stone vessel that he has sketched at the bottom of this page, said to have been found in Oldbury wood.

P. 6. Saturday August 8th 1896. Lewis visited BH. The plan was to walk on the Plateau but rain stopped play! The next day they breakfasted after looking at Body Stones. Their walk was delayed by rain but they eventually started at 10 am but had to shelter under a hedge at Four Wents after which they headed for the Horse and Groom. They found many worked and very worn stones on the pit field spread but none that were 'typicals'. At South Ash they found many worked stones. Refreshment at the Hope and Anchor was then taken! Persistent rain dogged their return journey and they made hurried tracks to the Horse and Groom where they again had tea. The lighted fire in the evening cheered BH up. Noted that not a shred of evidence, in the form of pals, was found; all the stones they came across were of the rude type.

Wednesday August 12th 1896. Mrs H, BH and Ventin went to Sevenoaks. BH notes that there was a cattle sale attended by very few people.

Later Mr James from Maidstone Museum visited and they had a long and 'confidential' chat. The two examined implements from the Medway, the Rock shelter and some 'rudes'. BH arranged to send the British Association another proper set as well as some for the Maidstone Museum to put on show with a view to purchase. These were '...to be most carefully and systematically staged for effect'. BH accompanied Lewis to the station.

Thursday August 13th 1896. BH records the visit of the Chinese ambassador to Eynesford Maxim Range⁴. On the way BH notes the 'Blackberry feast on hillside'. There were about 350 guests at the occasion. There was an interesting exhibition of fruit and flowers. BH notes that there was plenty of time to observe the guns, horses and reserve ammunition.

P. 7. Continued from previous page. BH goes on to describe the soldiers' machinery and adds little sketches to illustrate the occasion. The ambassador arrived with the host [and inventor] Mr. Maxim, in a sedan chair covered in velvet. The ambassador asked to see the men rapid firing at which Mr. Maxim took the place of a gunman and joined in. There is a very nice picture showing the ambassador, Mr Maxim and three guns being fired. BH remarks that the sight of Mr Maxim, who threw off his coat and hat before tackling the work at hand, 'was a sight to be seen' and says that 'evidently there is a lot of gut in the man... he may be classed as a semi-lunatic but is evidently no fool'.

P. 8 Newspaper clippings about the Chinese ambassador's visit to Eynesford, not dated and the publication not specified. BH met the young Mr Vennell who explained military matters to him. They walked home together. Again mentions the surfeit of blackberries. Saw no ochreous flint on the journey home apart from a patch west of Goodberry farm. BH vows to carefully examine this patch, which he identifies as of Tertiary origin.

Sunday August 16th 1896. Mr. Druery and his wife visit BH in Ightham. The usual inspection of implements follows before they went for a walk on Oldbury Hill where they closely examined the eastern face. BH says '...not one felix was to be found though Mr Stede said that the crested form came from there'. They then went on to the water flash where BH noted that the Skull Cap was in bloom and they saw 'a fine natterjack' [toad]. After this they made their way home via the rock [shelter]. In the afternoon BH went to Boro' Green and Mr Mists glass houses where he examined Maidenhair ferns. From there he went on to the fissure, following the stream [Shode] home via Tompkin's field. Later in the early evening BH caught the train to Sevenoaks from where he walked to Wilderness park. Whilst in the vicinity he visited Abbott for a short chat, who, though, ill was improving.

P. 9. Newspaper clipping re: the Chinese national anthem and the ambassador's visit.

Wednesday August 16th 1896. BH, his wife and Elsie took the train to Shoreham. They had a peep at the Dene hole on Lord Dunsay's land after which it took five minutes to reach the ochreous bed containing worked stones. Then it was across the valley to Cotmans, Ash, where they took refreshment. The blackberries were still bountiful as were the mushrooms obtained from Furze field. They made their way home via St Clere Lodge and, as it began to rain, were forced to borrow an umbrella.

The following entry is from Worthington Smith and is entitled 'Puffball', dated August 19th 1896. 'The fungus is the giant puff ball, *Lycoperden giganteum*. Curious

⁴ The Maxim gun was among the first to use a recoil-operated loading system. In 1895 the Japanese purchased a number of these weapons which may explain why the Chinese ambassador was in Eynesford to view them being fired.

name – Lycopus a wolf – perden to expel from behind. Our predecessors believed it to be poisonous and to grow only on dung of the wolf – It attains a great size sometimes more than 5 ft in diameter. It is edible and considered a delicacy by some. It must be gathered quite fresh and perfectly white inside. Cut into thin slices and fry in egg, or fry with a steak’.

A short paragraph re: tertiary stones in which interest, in the stones produced by similar age beds abroad, resemble those found locally [so-called Theyanites].

P. 10. Newspaper clippings re: the Chinese ambassador’s visit to Eynesford and about Professor Ray Lankester’s reply for science to the Royal Society dinner.

Extract from Charles J. Druery’s *Eolithic Man*:

‘The vexed question of the real age of mankind that is the length of the period during which reason has been the slowly elevating and peculiar characteristic of one particular branch of the animal kingdom, has in recent years been discussed with renewed vigour owing to certain discoveries in Kent. These discoveries consisted of flints so peculiarly shaped and of such precisely similar outlines that some half a dozen distinct types could be sorted out and brought together by the ?..., that it was impossible to imagine the unaided focus of nature, as represented by accidental fracture and attrition, or decay could have produced them. On the other hand regarding them as rude tools made by man, these flints were found at such hitherto unheard of elevations and embedded in formations of such known antiquity as to add very many thousands of years to the already immensely widened conceptions of the age of mankind based on what are...

P. 11. Continued from the previous page:

... known as Palaeolithic implements. As is ever the case when discoveries of a revolutionary nature are announced they are received at first with ridicule and only find general acceptance when they have, so to speak, been hall marked by the heads of the special department of science concerned. This is by no means an unmixed evil, since it is essential that the leaders of science should be eminently conservative in their acceptance of new truths, but it occasionally happens, and in this special case, it has happened, that while the discoverer has spent years of his life in heaping Pelian upon Assa in the way of confirmatory evidence, the very mass of accumulated forms and obstacles to the full acceptance of the great truth it demonstrates and the attachment of the “hall mark” is deferred again and again because the chief of the marking department has not the leisure or it may be the inclination to satisfy himself sufficiently. The writer has recently been through the collection of these flints numbering some 5000 odd and has furthermore...

P. 12. Continued from previous page:

... gone over some of the ground which furnished them and being accompanied by the collector and unencumbered by any previous convictions, was carried away by the irresistible logic embodied in the specimens and the accepted geological history of the spots in which they were found.

Mr Benjamin Harrison whose name I cannot leave out as he desired, was in the first place led to his theory of Eolithic Man as he has been termed in distinction from Palaeolithic man, by two previous steps. In the first place he accumulated an immense number of Neolithic flint implements of comparatively recent age. Subsequently extending his field of research he found a large number of the accepted Palaeolithic ones of the well known pear shaped type, originally found in France by M Boucher de Perthes. Mr. Harrison's thorough acquaintance thus acquired of the grades of development of these implements then led him to the conclusion that man in his primitive state was not at all likely to...

P. 13. Continued from previous page:

... to have started with the symmetrically shaped pear but in all likelihood commenced by using flint as nature made them only selecting the handiest form for the purpose in view. Gradually he would begin to use a special form for a special purpose and finding a flint nearly adapted would chip at a bit and adapt it quite. Eventually besides adapting it to the work in view, whether cutting, scraping or striking, he would consult comfort and improve his hand hold and so in time rude but regular types would be evolved. Between however the raw flint and the perfected pear, which eventually graded up into Neolithic arrow and spear heads and polished Celts and hatchets for attachment to wooden handles, until it culminates in the modern tool chests whence stone has been eliminated altogether, a great gulf lies and this gulf Mr. Harrison has bridged by the discovery of intermediate forms whose evolutionary character is further attested by their far greater age as demonstrated by their position...

P. 14. Continued from previous page:

... inevitably in such a collection there exists the debatable ground lying between where nature did all the shaping work and man only used and where the shaping assumes such a definite character as we know no natural forces of today could conceivably produce. In this area lies the field of conflict between Mr. Harrison and his supporters who are many and the hall marking chief of anthropology. During the latter part of his life Mr Harrison had the support of the late professor Prestwich during the latter part of his life. Since by repeatedly investigating the ranks upon ranks of repeat specimens which have been assorted to demolish the chance theory, he fully convinced himself that man or some purposeful animal which developed into man, had worked the majority, if not all into the shapes these flints now possess. It is however by no means necessary for the majority to be accepted, Mr. Harrison's enthusiasm as people term it, as if it were a fault, might mislead him indeed, in the large majority, but he is right with any, his theory of periglacial... The last three lines have a vertical line besides them and someone ?Edward Harrison, has written in pencil 'This is the point particularly to bring out. If 99% are nature the 1% remaining still establishes the whole theory. 300 being found in a small excavation is a great stumbling-block...

P. 15. Continued from the previous page:

...man is as firmly established by these and the rest of the associated data as if every implement were undoubted. Let any one however attempt to assort a large collection of naturally shaped broken flints into typical forms and he will speedily find that the variety is infinite and that starting with one of Mr. Harrison's scrapers for instance with a semi circular hollowed outline distinguished by a certain style of chipping to particular edges and he would speedily find it a hopeless task. In the Ightham collection however dozens of series of one type will be produced tallying closely with each other not merely in one feature but in half a dozen, the bulk of the mysterious chipping being formed precisely in the hollowed out portions and therefore unaccountable on any purely natural theory. Another point in this connection is that no similarly characteristic stones are found in recent gravels associated or unassociated with Neolithic implements and another yet is that the evolutionary forms of the flatly pear shaped palaeolith are all in evidence as well as other types. This fact considered in conjunction with the recognised preglacial...

P. 16. Continued from the previous page:

...deposits in which these ruder types are found in situ irresistibly carry the conviction with them that Man existed contemporaneously or previously to their deposition. This is the point which Mr. Harrison has devoted some invaluable years to establish, not merely collecting and grouping haphazard but by an intelligent study of the geological features of the entire district. Armed with the knowledge thus acquired he is one of the most charming companions conceivable. Every field, hill, chalk pit or valley has its history of finds of relics of Neolithic, Palaeolithic or Eolithic man all linked together in a simple logical chain. Pointing to the wide landscape as far as Oldbury Hill extending beyond the Shode to the Darent, the Medway and the Thames he sees in his mind's eye and brings home to his attentive listener, a different landscape when what is now, as he says, clouds and sky were occupied by a land of hills and dales, rivers and rivulets whose debris and gravels alone remain to tell the tale in the shape of the cappings of the present hill tops or stray rocks and stones foreign to their present sites whether they have...

P. 17. Continued from the previous page:

... been carried by the torrents and ice streams of years past and gone. Thanks to a certain grant made for the purposes Mr. Harrison has been able to tap as it were the evidence contained in these hill cappings of ancient gravels by means of pits and as many of his more striking finds have been found in these, the uncertainty attending finds has been eliminated, since worked flints found in situ deep in old gravels which have never been disturbed since their deposition except by elevation or subsidence en masse, afford incontestable evidence of antiquity at least equal to that of the gravels themselves and thus establish the existence of their makers and users when or before such a deposit was formed. As the originator of the idea of the existence of these old olds (as Mr. Harrison terms his latest finds in distinction to the more recent Palaeoliths) as well as the collector of so many examples Mr Harrison stands in the first rank of these amateurs to whom science is often indebted for unexpected discoveries and to the writers mind certainly meant a better recognition...

P. 18. Continued from the previous page:

... than has so far been accorded owing to the hall mark being so long deferred.

P. 19. BH got as far as Peckham Wood corner on Sunday August 23rd 1896. He had intended walking to Swanscombe but thought it 'too risky'. He refers to weather conditions as being 'very close' and remarks on the state of Oldbury Hill. Peckham Wood chalk pit was therefore the default choice where BH notes the presence of much ochreous flint. He noted a great concentration of these flints as he 'catered across' and determined to go again. On to Wrotham Hill patch which he found 'in seed so unavailable for two years'. [AM:He is probably referring to the practice of crop rotation and allowing land to lie fallow for a certain time in order to regain fertility.] He was forced to take shelter from the rain which, when it stopped allowed him to find many small eoliths but no trace of 'Pale man'.

Sunday August 30th 1896. Finds BH sketching some for the Guildhall.⁵ He, Ted and Mrs. BH walked to Platt. They call in on Terry, who was imminently off to the Baltic. re: the exhibits and space. At the 'Western Knoll' (? exact location) BH found an eolithic double scraper after which he went through the wood to 'The Oak' for refreshment. He spoke to Ian Styles re: stuffed birds, which include the heron, plover, swift, moorhen and sandpiper all of which were shot in the locality. Home via Windmill Hill, Potter's hole, Platt and Basted where he observed a mixture of flint as in 1870 when nearing the Atherfield clay.⁶ Spent the evening sketching.

Sunday September 6th 1896. Again sketching the Guildhall specimens after which he walked to Fane Hill near the top of which he found a 'characteristic body stone'

Copy of Sir John Evans' letter of September 7th 1896:

[AM: A Windmill Hill specimen [...] ⁷ and two Plateau tools had been sent to him.]

The white one from Windmill Hill seems to me to have possibly been worked but I am more doubtful than certain. I can see nothing but the hand of nature on the other two. They seem to me to have been passive and not active while the wearing of their edges took place.

P. 20. Continued from the previous page:

You seem to have had a very successful day at Ash. I had not seen your circular before. There is no one who holds a higher opinion than I do of the value of your services in unrolling the history of Palaeolithic man. I cannot however

⁵ He is referring to the Guildhall Museum in Rochester

⁶ The area south of Ightham, around the Old Soar, was the site of exploration for coal. Sir Joseph Prestwich had been in the forefront of geologists in this endeavor. The depth of the Atherfield clay proved a barrier to coal mining in that part of Kent, even though it's presence was predicted by Prestwich and others.

⁷ BH has left a blank space where the reader might have expected a number

accept what might have been done by natural action as undoubted evidence of human work. Nor does it seem to me of much importance whether those rude forms are worked or not, if as I believe is the case implements of the ordinary Palaeolithic character occur in the same beds with them. So long as this is the case it seems, to say the least if it, needless to call in doubtful evidence. I should think that you had better send the rock shelter specimens to the British Association at Burlington House. I have not heard of any proposal to renew the Plateau Committee’.

There follows a sketch of three of the plateau implements from Windmill Hill, various views. Implement 771, found on Fane Hill by BH on 6/9/96 and sketched above, was also sent to Sir John Evans.

P. 21. Letter from Sir John Evans to BH dated September 9th 1896 thanking BH for implement 733 and returning the two eoliths sent by BH. ‘I am returning the two. That with the incrustations is interesting and it has a peculiar surface. Is the flint of which it is made a chalk flint? I have your letter this morning – I think that so far as bruising, battering and chipping off sharp angles are concerned man can imitate nature – On the other hand nature does not produce sharp cutting edges by alternate chipping in two directions, at all events when a number of chips have to be removed.’

Sketch of 771, three views.

Loose page with a piece entitled ‘Harlyn Bay and the discoveries of its prehistoric remains’.

Friday September 11th 1896. BH to London by train with Mr. Hale. On the journey they meet Charles and Hugh Knight with whom they have a pleasant chat. At Victoria BH met Mr. Stopes and Mr. Newton. They inspect the plates of figures for Guildhall [A lecture preparation for the South Eastern Scientific Society?]. BH introduced to the curator, Mr Welch, by Newton. Looked in at St. Pauls and the new reredos, and the tomb of ...? By bus to Jermyn Street and another chat with Mr. Newton and then, via Green Park, to an aquarium. Makes mention of performing fleas, jumping beans and Japanese puzzles! Chatted all the way home on the 4.12 train with Mr. Crawshay. Got a lift home from the station with Mr Beech.

P. 22. 1864 The FRS Copley medal awarded to Darwin. General Sabine’s address at an anniversary meeting in which special weight was given to his work in geology, zoology and botany but the *Origin of Species* was praised chiefly as containing a mass of observations. BH quotes ‘The paragraph is as follows (and applies to Prestwich). In his most recent work on the origin of species although opinions may be divided or undecided with respect to its merits in some respects, all will allow it contains a mass of observations, bearing upon the habits, structure, affinities and distribution of animals, perhaps unrivalled for interest minuteness and patience of observation. Some amongst us may perhaps incline to accept the thought indicated by the title of this work, while others may perhaps incline to refuse, or at least to remit it to a future time when increased knowledge shall allow stranger grounds for its ultimate acceptance or rejection. Speaking formally and collectively, we have expressly omitted it from the grounds of our award’. [P.29 Vol 3.]

P. 24. BH appears to have omitted P. 23 as there is no sign of a missing page. *Public Opinion* April 23rd 1863. A lively account of a public case in which the quarrels of scientific men are satirised. In it Mr John Bull gives evidence. 'The whole neighbourhood was unsullied by their disputes. Huxley quarrelled with Owen, Owen with Darwin, Lyell with Owen, Falconer and Prestwich with Lyell, and Gray, the menagerie man, with everybody. He had pleasure however in stating that Darwin was the quietest of the lot. They were always picking bones with each other and fighting over their gains. If either of the gravel sifters or stone breakers found anything, he was obliged to conceal it immediately, or one of the old bone collectors would begin to appropriate it first and deny the theft afterwards and the constant wranglings and disputes were as endless as they were wearisome. Lord Margin, probably the clergyman of the parish might exact some influence over them, very useful'.

BH then records that he went on to the British Museum where he found an improved display of 16 of his eoliths. Looked at quartz implements from India and other Palaeolithic implements. He examined the specimens from Cresswell Crags, excavated by Boyd Dawkins. He notes that there were no specimens paralleling or featuring the 'rudes'. He notes seeing the Rosetta Stone which he found interesting, and which he thought was found by the French in 1803 and then given to the British in 1812. Caught the 3.37 train home.

P.25. An article entitled 'The British Archaeological Association' Not dated. An account of the Annual Congress of this body. Also attached is a musical concert programme in which the Anglo-French Chamber Orchestra features.

On September 21st 1896 BH made a trip to the Guildhall Museum (London) by train with an overnight stay. It rained unceasingly throughout this trip with gale-force winds. He had to walk from Victoria to the Mansion House where his flints were being unpacked. BH displayed them in good order. Mentions Dr. Connor, whom he noted was watching him arrange the eoliths and who was exhibiting a series of bronze swords found in the Thames, the whole lot of which had been fished up in one haul. BH comments on the excellent spot he has been given to exhibit his eoliths. BH interested in all the other exhibits and looks around at them before the company arrive.

P. 26. The account of the Guildhall exhibition and Congress continues. BH met Mr. Elliott of Camberwell whom he 'convinced'. Showed Dr Connor the Thayneite specimens from Peckham Wood, which proved to be the convincers. The description that follows of people BH met shows him getting to know people, some of whose names and exploits feature in Edward Harrison's book on his father's life. BH clearly regarded this occasion as an opportunity not only to convince as many people as possible of the authenticity of eoliths but also to sell series of eoliths and thus fund his activities.

BH shows his artistic inclinations and appreciation by commenting on the paintings in the picture gallery. He intended returning the following day but the awful weather prevented this. He comments that the curator, Mr Wright, promised to visit BH. He met an interesting medical missionary in his carriage. Despite this the return journey is described as 'A long weary ride home.'

P. 27. Copy of a letter to the Editor of the *City Press* entitled: 'Flint Implements at the Guildhall'. The letter says:

Sir... Allow me to contribute a somewhat important addendum to Mr. Druery's timely letter in your issue of Wednesday with regard to the wonderful collection of flint implements from Ightham now on view at the Guildhall. The collection which was entirely unclassified on Monday the day of the Archaeological Association's visit: and, therefore unintelligible to many of the visitors, is now arranged in its historical sequence. Instead of a medley of all ages, the implements are now arranged chronologically, the sequence and evolution of the forms being visible at a glance – They begin with the rudest recognisable efforts which perhaps a reasoning creature is capable of, and gradually assume a definite shape and purpose until the long series ends in the highly finished flaked Palaeolithic weapon or tool which Londoners are now familiar with. As this is the first time the Ightham implements...

P. 28. Continued from the previous page.

... have been seen in so complete a series, the opportunity of inspecting them will not, I am sure be lost upon your readers. The ruder or more lowly forms are a new revelation in anthropology. It is to these that the veteran Canon Greenwell alluded when, on returning them to the discoverer after careful inspection, his belief in their manufacture by some reasoning creature and said he had not the least doubt of their having been made with intent. To this the late Sir Joseph Prestwich added the words "And no other conclusion to my mind is possible". It is a singular coincidence that, whilst the British Association at Liverpool was discussing the anatomy of the newly found *Pithecanthropus erectus*, these should be sent to Guildhall the oldest and rudest flint implements we know of, corresponding to the lowest and undeveloped powers of some reasoning creature whose age we must put back to early glacial or even pre glacial times. I understand that the Guildhall authorities will kindly allow Mr. Harrison's epoch-making collection to remain on view for another week or more. Visitors will find an intelligent and sympathetic curator in charge. I am etc: Henry Walker FGS 150 Kingston Park Road.

Copy of a letter from Sir John Evans, dated September 24th 1896, who on his return from the Liverpool meeting of the British Association wrote to BH: '...I have just got home again from Liverpool, and am sorry to say that there was great difficulty in obtaining money grants on account of the numerous applications. The question of making application for a grant to carry out further excavations on the Plateau of Kent was brought forward in the County section C but having regards to what had already been done, it was shelved after slight discussion. I am afraid you will be disappointed but it cannot be helped'. Rather confusingly below the obvious conclusion to this letter BH has written 'Julian Sir Sydney Waterlow's letter' though what has been transcribed clearly is from Sir John Evans to BH.

P. 29. Copy of a letter from W.J Knowles to BH dated 24th September [1896]:

'I do not doubt but your view of Sir John is correct. He is too old now to have an open mind and he will I have no doubt hold firmly to the doctrines he has

found regarding flints during his life. The study of the Egyptian, Mycenaean and other early art culture has taken such a hold on the mind of the younger archaeologists that the subject of the early stone culture sticks in their noses and they are impatient if anything of that kind is brought up, till they get over it and have the subjects more to their own minds brought on.

Of course I was interested also in this branch and heard very important discussions by the most eminent men of Europe. They excused themselves to me afterwards by saying that it was most unfortunate that I came on at the time that I did, just before luncheon time. Of course I was disappointed as I wanted criticism which I believe I could have answered no matter how adverse. I hope I may have a favourable opportunity some time again. Believe me, yours truly, W.J. Knowles’.

Copy of a letter from W.M Newton dated September 24th 1896: ‘Dear Mr. Harrison, I was sorry that I was not at the Guildhall on Monday evening. I went home to dress but found the rain continue[d] so steady that I did not care to face the journey back to London. I send you by post the “Daily Mail” which contains a short reference to the “old rudes”. I wrote a much longer letter but I suppose space is valuable and the Editor cut a lot out. However every little helps to popularise your discoveries and the Daily Mail is largely read by the working class. Yours faithfully, W.M. Newton’.

P. 30. Copy of a letter from Mr Shrubsole dated 29th August 1896. ‘Dear Sir, May I ask you from your intimate knowledge of your district, whether you meet with any what is called “Northern drift” that is quartzite pebbles from the ?... And if so, have you observed its limits as to height above sea level and whether abundant or scarce where found. I hope some day to have the pleasure of seeing your collection. I am studying these pebbles just at present and an account of the distance. It will save me much trouble if you can supply me with the information I want. Yours very truly, OA Shrubsole’.

Copy of a letter from Sir Henry Howarth FRS, undated: ‘Dr Mr. Harrison, I am obliged for your letter and shall be very pleased sometime to see your collection but I am afraid I do not collect anything. This is a fine country for prehistoric remains. I shall see some very curious ones...’.

Copy of a letter from Mr. Blackmore of Salisbury, dated 6th August 1896. ‘I am more than ever anxious to trace the deeply stained flints to their proper bed. Lenham is not very far distant from your quarters. Could you on some leisure day make an excursion over there and have a good hunt in the gravel there for evidence of Plateau implements. Even if you don’t find any it would be useful to know the exact character of the staining of the flints in the Lenham Pliocene gravels’.

P. 31. On Sunday August 7th 1896 BH was in all day sketching evolutionary groups. Mrs H and Elsie in town all day.

Reference to the preparation of a paper for the Guildhall meeting of September 21st 1896. Notes that it was not read. He has however copied the contents of the paper which reads thus:

‘Ladies and Gentlemen. The series of rude implements brought here for your inspection is the result of many years careful and persistent search. At present I call these primitive tools Palaeolithic outlaws, in not having been accepted in full by our chief authority on stone weapons, - but looked upon as the result of natural agency rather than the work of man. On this point I shall be glad if careful attention is paid to the exhibits, and close examination made of the supposed human workmanship upon them. If they do appear to bear the work of early man, and can be shewn to be so selected as to be grouped into various types, and if each of these types, however rude, is illustrated by numbers of specimens, showing how natural flint pebbles of suitable form have been selected and by being chipped on one side only, have been brought to the required shape and edge: then I may be justified in having persistently and painstakingly continued a work which has caused so much controversy in a branch of the scientific world. Though many here shewn may be classed as mere “field tools” picked up and used for chopping and hammering, in the same way as one picks up and uses a pebble now-a-days, and fashioned in such a way that they fall into distinct classes or groups...

P. 32 (it is not actually numbered but falls between 31-33) Continued from previous page:

...Feeling confident that do bear the impress of man and possibly represent his first essays in handiwork (certainly in the Thames basin). I have classified them as follows:

1. Crook point tool
2. Single curve scraper
3. Double curve scraper
4. Combination tool
5. Split pebble bearing work on one side
6. Semi-circular tool
7. Drawshave or hollow scraper
8. Tool with work all round

I had hoped to have prepared a much longer ... but as these primitive implements have been fully treated by the late Sir Joseph Prestwich before the Anthropological Institute – [and] again by Mr. Montgomerie Bell, who introduced them to the members of the British Association at Edinburgh and more recently at the Oxford meeting, I felt that in the limited time at my disposal, a brief introduction be all that is needed.

[I] argued to myself that until I see flints carefully and uniformly chipped all round the edges, and only in one direction of blow, by natural action, I shall believe that these are artificial, and that there is something more in the regular though rude chipping than mere accidental attrition could possibly have predicted. The general form might be the result of accident but fractures from frost or collisions, simulating chipping could hardly be all in the same direction or confined to one part or the other part as must have been the case if they had been the result of casual blows by natural forces. The total number of these rude examples sketched and catalogued now exceeds 5000 and even if 90% of them

were rejected as but doubtful evidence, the remaining 500 specimens would still establish all that...

P. 33. Continues from previous page:

... 'these much-worn, deeply stained ochreous stones have excited my curiosity for many years, in fact it is as long since as 1864 that I first observed them. In 1879 on a special journey with an object being made to the chalk plateau several of these were found, but the examples then acquired although sufficient to stimulate speculation as to their manufacture were not so convincing as later finds. From that date onwards the evidence has steadily accumulated; hence it has not been a hurried rush to conclusions, but a gradual growth from dawn to conviction. Having continuously observed these water-worn apparently worked specimens for many years, with extreme hesitation I became convinced that they really shew the work of human hands. The opinion being irresistibly forced upon me. I have held it with all firmness, and having ?... is claimed for them, by those who believe that the hand of Eolithic man is responsible for these primitive tools. If these are accepted as rude beginnings and as shewing a human purpose – the striving for something better, which in due time followed, then I am content, and beg to lay before the members of the Association here assembled the result of many years observations and the harvest of later years careful and persistent search. I thank you most heartily for your kind attention, and shall be gratified by your valuable criticism on these "unconsidered trifles" for like Autolycus I may be classed as a snapper up of such but "I am a Man" Everything belonging to man must be of interest to me'. September 28th 1896.

P. 35. (yet again a missing number in the sequence which is not the result of a missing page). Copy of a letter from Henry Walker dated September 26th 1896. '... I had another look in Guildhall on Saturday. I have since written a letter to *The Times*, which if inserted should be further helpful. Will you send me 4 more copies of your circular, which gives on page 2 quotations from experts. Shall you be at Ightham every day this week! In case I have to write suddenly for information in reply to challenges and enquiries. How many plateau specimens altogether have you now taken from below the surface? Yours faithfully H Walker'.

Small newspaper clipping about the reading of two papers on 'The Sculptured Stones of Scotland' by Henry Stopes. No clue as to where or to whom these papers were read though the author, Miss Maclagan, is mentioned.

Wednesday September 30th 1896. BH visited by a friend of Boyd Dawkins, who it turned out was also the brother of Canon Isaac Taylor along with his two sons. They inspect the implements and then go on to the Oldbury rock shelters. They discuss all 5 of the well-known Isaac Taylors, one of whom was an artist and friend of Oliver Goldsmith, another a theologian, the third a writer of hymns, the fourth, alive and well and in his prime and the fifth, one of Boyd Dawkin's sons.

P. 36. Some newspaper clippings, long since removed, from *The Birmingham Gazette*. Enigmatic little entry re: the characters of some plays.

Sunday October 3rd 1896. BH and Mr and Mrs Hood had arranged for a long walk on the plateau but weather conditions prevented this and BH was forced to go later by himself. Called in on Mr. Pink who agreed to set to work on the pit, which is not specified.

P. 37. Calendar date of 23rd October 1896. Under this is an entry for October 11th 1896. BH, Hodd and Ted set out for Windmill Hill. Met Chapman who said he was out of work so BH agreed to write to Mr Pink to ask if Chapman could begin digging the agreed pit. Mr Pink agreed to an immediate start on this project.

Sunday 18th October 1896. Horace Beale, and BH to pit, later joined by McFarlane.

21st October 1896. BH and Mr Hills to pit. It rained but BH records that Pink gave him a 'nice little pale' found on their land.

Sunday October 24th 1896. BH met Dr Coomber and his friend Mr Nash. They started out in the trap. A sudden storm overtook them and Elsie and Mrs H (who must have accompanied BH on this outing) braved the terrific thunderstorm with hail stones, of which Elsie gathered handfuls. Mr H and Elsie left the others to inspect the pit.

Tuesday October 26th 1896. BH had a wire from Payne to settle their arrangements to meet at Ash pit. BH at work when he arrived at 12.45. Back via Plaxdale, Cooper's Wood summit point and old chalk pit. Payne unusually talkative.

P. 38. Sunday November 1st 1896. Sketching Association exhibits. Mr and Mrs Hickmott called for a chat at 11 after which BH went out with Ted, Elsie and Agnes to the pit.

November 2nd 1896. E.J. Newton visited BH at pit and took notes. He promised to find Mr Hawkins ?...who mapped the area..

Wednesday 4th November 1896. BH to Oldbury with Mrs BH. Both enjoy the autumn colours. BH writing and sketching on their return.

5th November 1896. BH moved by the spirit to run up to the pits. Called in to the Horse and Groom for refreshment. Says of this trip 'A capital shake up that'.

Sunday November 8th 1896. Busy tidying his museum and wrote in the evening to Lubbock, Jones and Mr. Pink.

Dr C... wrote to tell BH of the success they had at a meeting saying 'You would have been proud'. Clearly an academic meeting at which eoliths were discussed or displayed.

BH comments that he 'dallied a little with *Romain's Life and Letters*'.

Copy of a letter from H. Walker dated November 13th 1896; 'I was not able to get to University College. Business just now is very exacting leaving me little leisure. I shall

look with interest for the record in the proceedings. All seems to be going for you as well as it can'.

P.39. November 13th 1896. BH had arranged to meet Sir John Lubbock at Kingsdown, however he received a wire as he was about to start, saying that Lubbock was not coming that day. BH wired back in case they came later. BH was then driven to Porto Bello [Inn] and hastily arranged for the specimens from pits to be laid out in an upper room. He then walked to pit no 3 where there were some finds then on to Chinhams. BH describes a find with which he seems especially pleased '...a much mutilated old cripple, transitional in character bearing old old style of working on butt end. The find removed all disappointment'. He then walked to Swanley via Farningham. At Wood Heights pebble beds he saw not a trace of ochreous flint all the way. Examined the pebble gravels no trace of typical or even worked split pebbles. This walk was to him an education and strengthened his Ash position naturally. 'A very interesting series of rounded hill curves, outliers of pebble beds – but dreadfully miry – as bad as the weald clay path...'

Sunday November 15th 1896. BH visited the Dennetts with whom he chats. Up to Terry's, who had just gone to Wrotham so BH set off across field to brickyard and caught up with Terry who was out for a walk. Called into the Bull and chatted with Mr Whale. Judged the day to have been an interesting one.

November 9th 1896. BH kept appointment with Mr Shaw Lefevre with whom he chatted on 'position' Lefevre said he intended writing to the Prime Minister.

November 22nd 1896. BH out early to Plaxdale Farm where he paced a field from east to west and noted the gravel distribution which he thought was the same on Parsonage Farm pit. Met Stopes at the Swan and they went back to the pit and from there to Peter Bell's where they dined. Mr and Mrs Rogers visited BH.

P. 40. A/P and lateral drawing of a palaeolith from Chinhams.

November 13th 1896. This very rude, transitional artefact was found NW of the house. It has what BH says is old style work on the butt end. It is deep ochreous and similar to No 33 from Fane Hill.

November 29th 1896. In all day sketching as biting cold weather. December 1st 1896. BH met Whittaker and Holmes from the train and walked to the pit via Wrotham. On the way they examine the contents of the SE pit which is pronounced to be clay with flints. To 'the pit' noting the puddingstone block, Tertiary pebbles as well as Sarsen stone in Peckham Wood. They discussed these stones and those who regarded them as having been transported rather than, as BH obviously has concluded, that they were simply unwasted blocks the softer part of which had eroded. Swallow holes in the area noted and discussed. On reaching the pit Whittaker grabbed a shovel and pared down the clayey side. He thought that it was deeper than BH though reached the 'black seam' at around 4 foot deep. Work was interrupted when Colonel Underwood and his son arrived.

P. 41. The account from the previous page is continued and has BH observing the leech-like fashion in which Colonel Underwood fastened onto Whittaker, thus

preventing good discussion. BH and Whittaker discuss the work on one particular specimen with

Whittaker suggesting it had been struck downwards whilst BH offered the idea that [?] an anvil had been used. The need to distinguish between the fabricator and the fabricated was discussed with a funny from Holmes re: Hittites! (The terms used were hitters and hitted prompting this reference to Hittites). On to the SE pit which was filling in but the clay-with-flints was identified. From there on to the Porto Bello where they made an examination of implements. The walk to the train was pleasant and allowed discussion, to which BH contributed some points. Some chit-chat but also some useful observations about the faulty maps of areas of drift. BH a little dismayed that his 'infallible Bible of the Thames basin was no longer to be regarded'. Talked about Topley, Prestwich and others. The 'memorable day' was marred only by the shortness of time.

P. 42. The account from the previous page continues with more chit-chat. Title page of *Prehistoric Man and Beast* by the Rev. H.N. Hutchinson. Lovely picture of ancient man, a dirk-toothed cat, a bear and wolves.

P. 43. Friday December 4th 1896. A wire from Clement Reid asking BH to meet him at 10.19 the following day.

5th December 1896. Met train carrying CR as requested from where they went on to the Porto Bello to examine the implements. On to pit where a slip had obscured the black line. They walked to the filled-in number 3 pit and examined the matrix. Clement Reid did not agree with Whittaker's ideas on the clay with flints at the SE pit. On their way home via Exedown, they had a wide-ranging discussion re: the high level drift, re: plants, especially the Spanish plants in the west of England. BH talked about the Mallow at 'Parkstone' in Dorset (Wallace's home) and his (Wallace's) knack of making everything grow. BH relates having seen the Oldbury *Corydalis claviculata* bloom in advent. He muses on the advantage of a stone collector having some knowledge of stone chipping himself.

December 6th 1896. Bell visited BH but rain stopped any thought of play! The barometer read 28 and BH had a headache all day.

P. 44. Short newspaper clipping re: a trip to Lord Leighton's.

Monday December 7th 1896. BH takes the train to Malling 'to face the audition'. There is no explanation of the enigmatic entry.

Friday December 10th 1896. BH to London by train. Chatted with Major Luard on Maidstone Museum business. Called in on Mr Stopes then on to Victoria after which it was on to the Guildhall where he chatted with Mr Wright and Mr Welsh. Also chatted with Mr Newton, who admitted to feeling like a heretic amongst his colleagues but not when with BH.

Copy of a letter from Sir John Evans dated 15th December 1896... '... I see that the stipulations of the British Association is that the specimens collected are to be dealt with by the Association. I think that you had better inform the Secretary (British Association Burlington House) of the nature and extent of the Oldbury collection

which I should think had better go to the British Museum – and also of the nature of the Plateau collection. Probably some of these might go to the B. Museum and arrangements might be made for some going to the Maidstone Museum. I have seen Mr. Clement Reid since his last visit to Wrotham. Yours very faithfully, John Evans'

P. 45. Sunday December 13th 1896. BH and Abbott walked to the fissure. BH departed leaving Abbott to his 'sport' which turned out to be 'his most successful day...'

December 20th 1896. BH walked to Platt to see Mr Terry who was out. There follows a copy of part of John Mankelov's '*Notes on Wells*' of June 1895. This account features local wells and briefly articulates local geology nicely. The places mentioned are:

- Brickfield
- Nat's farm, Kingsdown
- Reding Lane, Ightham
- Crown Inn, Stone Street
- Black House, Boro' Green
- Western Road, Boro' Green

P. 46. The account of wells from previous page concludes with the list above.

December 23rd 1896. A little pencil and ink sketch of an arched fireplace and a geological section from the top-soil, coarse gravel/ironstone, fine gravel with flint and ironstone and the deepest section of 'greenish sand'.

P. 47. A journal review from *Natural Science* entitled 'Some New Books' which includes many on natural science and prehistoric early humans by a number of well-known authors. A picture of a troglodyte family from prehistory. A small clipping about Mrs. Ormiston Chant, a nurse recently returned from Greece, who extolled the benefits of cigarette smoking. A poem entitled 'A New year's Wish'.

P. 48 A newspaper clipping entitled 'Prehistoric Revelations'. This is mainly about Lewis Abbott and his knowledge of prehistoric animals. Though the fissure is not mentioned, this article must have been prompted by his work on the Basted fissure. Another small clipping about Abbot's discoveries of 'stone implements... in the Cromer Forest bed'.

Christmas day 1896. After working (presumably on his collection, it being Xmas day when the shop was most likely shut), BH walked to New Barn and back by 1pm. On Boxing day he worked in his museum and then walked to Fane Hill and then on to Tomkin's. Met Hayman, Holby and Skinner but 'catered' across the hop garden to 'avoid meeting the witch'.

P. 49. Tuesday 29th December 1896. BH describes the wounding of Hetty Allchin by Bob Hayman who was conveyed to Malling (West Malling police station); an affair that disturbed everyone in the village. Hetty died of her wounds and the verdict was 'wilful murder'.

Sunday January 3rd 1897. BH started out at 9 a.m. for Ash Plain, 'but not a trace of rudes'. Notes a block of Oldbury stone. On to West Yoke where he found many old olds and, though tempted to stay, went on to Fawkham. After calling in on Richard he left at 3 p.m. going home via Bout's Hole field. Notes how dirty he had become but says '...the 8 hour walk did me a power of good'. Notes the similarity between the Ash implements and those from Hoxne figured in Evans's book.

P. 50. Three aspect sketch of a cordiform hand axe under which is a small clipping of a letter from the editor of *Natural Science* informing the readers of a forthcoming article by Lewis Abbott on implements from Runton in the Cromer Forest bed.

A sketch from a newspaper or journal on 'the primitive stone-shaping processes' in which various knapping techniques are illustrated.

P. 51. The article which accompanies the sketch from the previous page and dated October 1896 from the *Sunday Times*.

January 10th 1897. Mrs H in W. where she and Mrs. Hodd obtained some fossil flakes from Diplock one of which may have come from disturbed Lenham beds and found near Rose Wood. This was given to Abbott. BH walked to Sevenoaks intending to listen to selections from Elijah but rain soaked BH who had to stop off at Abbott's to dry his clothes. Talks to Abbott re: pre-glacial flints from Britain and the forthcoming *Natural Science* paper on the forest bed finds.

P. 52. Clipping of an article entitled 'The Prehistoric Working Man' and another small clipping re: the Museum Committee's payment of £137. 17s. 7d for a selection of flint implements (BH's).

Sunday January 17th 1897. Sketching all day.

Sunday 31st January 1897. BH went walking at 9 a.m. Called on Sir Mark Colletto for a short chat and then on to Shoreham where he had a long chat with Lady Prestwich followed by lunch at Loveland's who then accompanied him to Sevenoaks. There he called in on Abbott who walked part the way home with BH to Seal. Postcard (loose) of the Taybridge to BH acknowledging his 'order'.

P.53. Sunday February 7th 1897 was cold and windy despite which BH walked to Four Wents lone barn west of which he found a spread of flakes which, he speculates, were Mesolithic. He also found some derived eoliths. He spent the evening sketching. On this day Ted departed for St Albans.

On Tuesday February 9th 1897 Robert Hayman was executed at Maidstone for the murder of Esther Allchin.

Sunday February 14th ushered in a dull, mild day. BH met Mr and Mrs Hodd at the station. As it had begun to rain they decided to return home for lunch and go out afterwards. Mr Hodd and BH set out for Seal Chart. At 7.50 they walked to Terry's in Platt.

Letter from Horace Wilkinson dated 17th February 1897. In it he apologises for being unable to call on BH to see and purchase a series of eoliths as planned because of this. Promises to try and visit the following week. He expresses his sympathy with BH in his attempts to dispose [sell] the collection. Advises BH to think no more of the loan of several years back and to view it as a gift.

P. 54. Newspaper clipping on a lecture on birds given the curator of Maidstone Museum, Mr. Allchin, undated.

BH makes a note of the lunar halo of February 16th 1897 for future reference as well as noting that the barometer stood at 30. Weather cold but these conditions gave way to rain by the 20th February.

Sunday February 21st 1897. Windy and wet so BH stayed in to sketch a series. By 11 a.m. the lure of the gravel saw him out at ?Bre... heights examining the Tertiary pebbles and some old flints some of which he suspects may have originated from London, as the matrix also contains some granite. Compares this with last weeks flint finds. Sketched again in the evening.

Wednesday February 24th 1897. BH and wife went to Kingsdown for a walk.

Sunday 28th February 1897. BH to Eynsford by train. Met Miss Sue Howell at a road junction.

P. 55. Continuation from previous page. Miss Sue Howell is the editor of the Kentish Notebook. Mr Vinson (Woolwich Antiquarian Society) and Mr Baldwin, a notable collector from Plumstead, accompanied Miss Howell. They make their way via the Basfield Valley to the Chapel in minutes. Mr Vinson noted the flint and mortar of this building, which he thought was Roman and compared it to the church at Dover Castle. From there they climb the steep slope to Chinhams and on to the Porto Bello where they ate roast beef. From there they went on to the pit, Parsonage Farm, Exedown and then home calling on their way at Town House (in Ightham) where they inspected the tiled archway and hall. Home for tea followed by a session in the museum.

There follows an account of another walk with the same company later that day to Dark Hill. The day was unanimously agreed to have been most enjoyable. Short, somewhat enigmatic entry about BH's status as a 'TGS' which Mr. Howell interprets as 'Tenet to the Geological Society' Short reference to the BH's Burlington House exhibition.

Monday March 17th 1897. Visitors including Miss Lt Collins, Captain Anderson and the curate to McLane Brown.

P. 56. Copy of a letter from Charles Welch, Guildhall Librarian, dated 5th February 1897. '... Your letters to the committee and subsequently to the Town Clerk were duly considered at their meeting on Monday last. The Committee instruct me to say, that while appreciating your kind offer to present through a friend a selection of your Eolithic flints, they report that the very limited space at their disposal for museum purposes compels them to adhere rigidly to their established rule of limiting all

permanent exhibits of antiquities such as found in London and its immediate neighbourhood. This necessarily has obliged them with great reluctance on many former occasions to refuse the gift of valuable specimens and collections. I am, dear Sir....’.

Sunday March 7th 1897. BH spent part of the day sketching owing to the cold weather but was tempted to walk to Basted after which he suffered greatly from rheumatism.

March 11th 1897. BH walked to Mole Wood and then Sevenoaks where he called in on Abbott who was just packing up his Hastings fissure material for the BM.

Copy of Mr Vincent’s letter to Earl Stanhope, dated March 10th 1897 but which starts:

Dear Mr. Harrison, your researches and discoveries have interested the members of this society very much and will be discussed at an early meeting. If you desire to have the subject brought under the light of the Kentish Antiquarian Society as I am sure you must do, your best course is to ask the help and ?... of the Right Hon Earl Stanhope whom you doubtless know as the president and Lord Lieutenant of your County. You will find him well acquainted with all antiquarian and anthropological...

P. 57. Continued from previous page:

...subjects and ever ready to help in any effort of enlightenment. He certainly will not fail to be interested in your investigations regarding the early man of Kent, Yours faithful servant, W.J.Vincent.

Newspaper cutting of a photograph of Professor Henry Drummond who died March 11th 1897.

Two newspaper clippings of poems, one about election to the Ightham Parish Council and the other about Turkey. Both are signed ‘Ighthamite’⁸. Sunday March 14th 1897.

Weather conditions reported before BH gives an account of a visit by both Abbott and Percy Martin. Debate followed which considered human flaking of certain stones. At 3 p.m. they make for the hillfort (Oldbury) and then the Pilgrim’s Way followed by a search for derived rudes ...’ and some of the blocks and imps of the 400 type’. Abbot stayed till 8.

P. 58. Continued from previous page. BH overhauled the Guildhall set of eoliths supplementing them with others from the Plateau and ‘made out 3 strong groups: evolutionary sets, pointed and Ovate... a real good day’s work’.

Newspaper article giving an account of the proceedings of the Folkestone Natural History Society in which the ideas of Malthus are dissected and those of Geikie as to the antiquity of man are also discussed.

⁸ It is almost certain the the ‘Ighthamite’ was BH

P. 59. Article continued from the previous page in which BH gets a mention as having provided eoliths for display at the Folkestone Museum.

Monday March 15th 1897. BH records a ‘Memorable week’ of very heavy rain and gales. He regards the wind as having provided a ‘Wonderful instance of Aeolian denudation...’

P. 60. Monday March 22nd 1897. Ted (Edward Harrison) recorded as having started his new post having left home for it on what BH describes as a ‘dull morning’.

Sunday March 21st 1897. Howard there and at 10 Ted, Howard and BH start for Heaverham meeting Mr. ?...⁹ at St Clere from where they proceed up the Coombe towards Drain. They discuss the heavy rainfall which Mr ?... had measured as being well over 2 inches. They carry on to Birches returning home via Yaldham fields.

There is an evening visit to Wright’s Plantation where BH chats with Jenkins and is home by 7. Miss ?B... visited at 8 and BH records that, when the sun broke through at noon, it became very hot.

March 25th 1897. BH received a visit from Mr. John Ballot, late of S. Africa. They had an interesting talk re: implements and their uses. BH says ‘In referring to body stones I asked if he had seen stones so used. He replied “the natives near where I was were advanced but I have many times seen them take up (a) handful of sand or grit and rub their corns and legs with it – and sometimes they will get tufts of grass and, shaping it nicely to be held in the hand place sand in it and then rub the soles of the feet. We find shaped stones of Palaeolithic form in the lowest of our valley gravels, in association with alluvial gold and tin when working for metals. I will write and get you very much interested in the rudes’. Mr Ballot promises to come again and BH notes that he was quiet man, slightly deaf and somewhat like Cecil Rhodes. Mr Ballot referred to finds in Swaziland E Africa.

March 26th 1897. Entry re: the distribution of Jessing block money by Mr Williams a poor charity trustee. BH went down as the overseer to find about a 100 children waiting and witnessed the transfer of the cash. BH had ‘two pennyworth of whiskey’ in his capacity as overseer, which was the due allowance.

March 28th 1897. BH in sketching as ‘atmospheric conditions out of joint...’. The barometer was sinking rapidly.

P. 61. An extract from Mr Ball’s letter to the Curator of the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines Museum. Urging them to ‘get a set’ from BH. Also notes that he has written to a friend in Swaziland asking for flint samples.

April 1st 1897. Owing to the blizzard BH stayed in sketching. Mr Hayman visited at night with a good example of ‘ripple work. A flake beautifully in fact elaborately worked on the reverse side’. BH so pleased with this acquisition that he was tempted to ‘...give him (Hayman) particulars of its probable use as a sacrificial knife...’.

⁹ BH has deliberately omitted the name of the gentleman whom he and Edward met at St Clere

Hayman expressed interest and asked BH if he had a world history and he elaborates about the time scale in which he is interested. BH appears a little perplexed at this request and wrote to Abbott giving details of Hayman's request. He thought he might write to Sir John Evans about it in case Abbott was unable to help who 'was...to be if not the author of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* – at least one who could re-write if he liked the last books of Livy' [AM: The last few lines quoted here have been amended slightly in order to make sense.]

P.62. Sunday April 4th 1897 was cold with a biting east wind. Despite the weather BH went with Ernie to Seal. Sketched in the evening and received McDermott and Jenkins.

Wednesday April 7th 1897. Violent hailstorm.

Sunday April 11th 1897. Fine frosty day. BH and Mrs BH to Ash via Horse and Groom. Notes the resurgent insect life as they walk. Also notes the clearness of the Shode valley when viewed from the summit (of the Downs).

Thursday April 8th 1897. Dark and humid. BH to Ash where he called on Mr. Potter who accompanied him to the Porto Bello. BH found what he thought could be a tumulus at Knockmill. There is an insert with pencil sketches of stone tools. Newspaper cutting with amusing poetic observations about Ightham Council elections.

Good Friday April 16th 1897. BH sketched all day owing to rain but had a short walk in the evening.

Easter Sunday April 18th 1897. 'Glorious day' that saw BH out with Mrs BH and Agnes on a walk to Crowhurst, Sheet Hill and Plaxtol. Then it was on to Yaldham where he gained permission from Mrs Goldsworthy for himself and friends to go over Hall grounds. Walked to Crown Point in the evening.

Sketches of stone tools found at East Dean, near Eastbourne.

Newspaper clipping of a 'Little list', published in an unidentified local newspaper, from the 'Ighthamite'. It is about the [Parish] Council and is in verse so beloved of BH.

P. 63. Newspaper cuttings long since removed. Sunday April 25th 1897. All the family walked to Styants Bottom and Broomsleigh fields but BH returned as he was not well.

Leaflet of the South Eastern Union of Scientific Societies second annual congress on Friday and Saturday 21st and 22nd May 1897. Held at the Town Hall, Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

Small newspaper clipping of a poem about the weather.

BH records record high temperatures for April. Goes on to detail the thunderstorm between Ham Hill and Brixton, noting that it had been 'particular strong' in those places.

May 2nd 1897. Ted at home. BH, Ted and Agnes out at 8.30 to St Clere. Calling in on Mr Potter who went with them to Terry's Lodge Hill. Notes the presence of Adder's Tongue on the way to Wrotham Hill. Then it was Plat Farm, Wrotham and home. The evening was spent at home.

P. 64. BH sketched the area over which Adder's Tongue was distributed between ? Terry's Lodge and a dewpond.

Original letter dated May 7th 1897 from Mc?... who writes ' Dear Mr. Harrison. In reply to yours I expect the box does contain new "rudes" which I collected with you. And which you certainly forgot to send and I shall be glad to receive. I have had some correspondence with Sir John Evans re: samples, and he examined a sample set of the "old un" which he pronounced genuine and was very pleased to have seen them. He is bringing out a new edition of this work on the Stone Age. I am hoping you and Mrs H are well. Yours faithfully, Mc... '.

BH relates the story of three costermongers who went out for a drive in the country in a donkey barrow, one of whom dies.

P. 65. May 9th 1897. Fine day. BH, Ted, Abbott and Mr and Mrs Hodd to Kingsdown. All except BH and Ted went by the trap. Mrs Hodd joined them at the top of the hill. BH describes the wonderful variety of spring flowers to be seen. Lunch at Porto Bello. On through Birches to Yaldham, where they met General Goldsworthy who invited them to see the hall. They found Mrs Galsworthy asleep so they quietly retired and went on down the field to the big stone. Mrs Galsworthy came after them but they were unable to return to the hall. They passed Romney and Fane Hill reaching home at 5.30. BH was adversely affected by the cold wind. He noted the presence of a few split pebbles none of which he thought bore any human work. He also observed that a flint drift covered the land behind two chimney house and that there were few ochreous pieces. He considered it to resemble the flint found on Birches.

Tuesday May 11th 1897. The Seal fire engine arrived at 8 a.m., a wire having been sent to report a fire at the Chequers and behind in Crawford's garden where some rubbish had actually caught fire. After it had been put out the crew 'supped at the Chequers'.

Wednesday May 5th 1897. Wind too cold so BH stayed in. Sharp frost Thursday, which damaged the potatoes and strawberries. Clipping of May proverb.

P. 66. Obituary of Mr. Theodore Bent May 8th 1897 whose work on *The Ruined Cities of Mashonaland* is mentioned several times.¹⁰

¹⁰ This reference is in relation mainly to Theodore Bent's exposition on the Great Zimbabwe ruins, though there were many other relatively unknown smaller but similar structures dotted throughout Zimbabwe as attested by RN Hall and WG Neal in their 1902 *The Ancient Ruins of Rhodesia*. Methuen and Co, London.

Sunday 16th May 1897. Weather report for the day and night. Notes the clouds of dust carried in the strong wind. BH walked to Seven Wents and home through disused road to tumulus. Morning walk to Dark Hill alongside the stream [Shode] where BH observed the presence of small trout and water rats.

Newspaper clipping re: a visit of the London Geologists Association to Tunbridge Wells and district. Dr Abbott was involved as a guide.

Wednesday 19th May 1897 saw the wind blowing from the east on what BH describes as a 'bright' day.

Saturday May 22nd 1897. Mr Newton and Mr Younes visited with a party from Dartford.

Sunday 23rd May 1897. A 'brilliant' day though a cold wind from the north is noted. BH at home all day and he and Mrs BH to Heaverham in the evening. Called on Mrs Usherwood who was entertaining Mrs Harvey Woods and daughters. Mr Potter also turned up. BH talks about the consequences of the long drought on the ground making it steely and intractable. Notes that Patch Grove field was 'like concrete'.

P. 67. Newspaper clipping of a poem about Ightham to celebrate Jubilee Day. Two more small clippings about Ightham and the warm weather.

Sunday May 30th 1897. Another warm and cloudy day which ended with torrential rain.

Longer newspaper clipping about the Ightham Parish Council. And a sketch of Mr Shaw Lefevre, the new President of the Local Government Board.

P. 68. Copy of a letter from Mr. Newton:

I may fittingly conclude with a slight variation of an eminent writer, the Abbe Cochet. "What I seek for in the bosom of the earth is a thought – What I hunt for at each strike of the workman's pick axe is an idea – That which I desire with ardour to collect is a line written in the dust of time – there to seek as in a book and as I interrogate that last grain of sand or the smallest stone I ask of them the secret of ages, of men and of the life of nations. – of people's existing long before the earth had taken its present shape and of the denizens of these hills and valleys as we now see them".

Opposite page blank with the ghost of a newspaper clipping.

P.69. A poem about keeping going in the face of adversity.

A note about a visit from Miss Sage and Mrs Dodge on June 1st 1897. They stayed for a month with BH. Miss Rigby joined them. Ted, Mrs H and BH accompanied the ladies on many a pleasant walk.

On Thursday June 3rd 1897 BH was determined to throw off a bout of minor ill health and go for a walk. It was a hot day but he nevertheless took the train to Shoreham He

visited a 'section' being dug in West Bank where Mr McDermot was having a villa built. Notes the 'trail drift' found there. Called on Mr Hancock at the Priory where he notes an empty shell, *Helix permatis*. Mr Hancock confirmed the presence of many such shells in that area. Mr Hancock also told BH that Roman coins had been found there. He promised to get BH a 'Boxful' of these. Saw Mr Plunket's collection of Mesolithic implements and 'rudes'. BH walked the field where he found worked stones, though none was 'typical'. [AM: I am pretty sure he refers to eoliths here]. At a field on an eastern slope in Romney Street, he noted a mass of pebbles on the top in which he found one 'rude' and four 'ochreous flints'. Home via St Clere at 8.45.

P. 70. Saturday June 5th 1897. Miss Kidd Jarvis and Mr and Mrs Bentley visited BH on a hot day.

On Sunday June 6th 1897 it was foggy. At 10.30 BH 'piloted' Miss Kidd [and the Bentleys ?] to the rock shelters and middle rocks where he left them. Thunder and rain followed at 3. They heard the storm over Bromley. In the evening BH walked with his visitors to the churchyard.

On Monday 7th June 1897 BH walked to pitfield at 9.30 despite the overpowering heat. Met Mr. Newton and his daughter at 11.30. Experienced unpleasant humidity with dense clouds coming from the east. In the afternoon he went to the rock shelters and Middle Wood. Lord Harding fell while out riding in the area and, as he had a slight concussion, had to be taken home to Penshurst.[ent. ?]

On Wednesday June 9th 1897 Mr West arrived and he and BH walked to Court Lodge and then to the station. BH filling in census returns for the jubilee.

Friday 11th June 1897. Dr Allan Sturge arrived at 10.45 spending time with BH in the garrett till 1 p.m. and then, at 2.30, they went on to Middle Wood and on to the rock shelters. AS caught the 5.30 train home. Notes that AS knows Mr Shaw Lefevre, whom he describes as 'A dry statesman' with no imagination. Then notes that Mr Cazelet is very rich, earning £100,000 per annum. Also chat about Queen Victoria and the grounds in which she took her daily drives. Mentions Lord Salisbury who wished to dissuade the Queen from entering the 'new building'.

P. 71. Continues from previous page. Alan Sturge arranged to take the Guildhall set for £100.00 and plans to visit BH again with Mrs Sturge before July 8th. On Saturday 13th June it was very hot, 80 degrees in the shade. Woolwich Antiquarian Society visited (40 people). BH gave a display of his collection in the garden at 6.15 p.m. but comments that the time available was too short to do it well.

On Sunday 14th June it was hot again. Friends visited friends. BH comments on crops and clover, which was as high as his wife's shoulders.

BH records that he sank a section at Kingsdown June 17th 1897. 10 ft deep 7 ft wide Holly Hall House (Edward has put a ? after the site). The following day, after a night's rain, BH made his way to Kingsdown at 10.30. To the north west of Two Chimney House he records the presence of a patch of stained gravel that he had long suspected would be found in the Crowslands bed. Found some worked and some very worn (eoliths). Small sketch of site in ink. Records the journey home via the new

mansion at Knock Hill Wood where he met the owner to whom BH points out some of the notable sites around there. Another sketch with geological features noted. In red ink and written at an angle to sketch. Dated June 24th 1897, it notes certain localities in relation to Tertiary geology.

P. 72. Blank except for the ghosts of newspaper clippings that have been removed.

P. 73. Sunday June 20th 1897. In company with Paynton, BH takes an early walk to Crowslands and carefully examines the patch he sunk in the worn ochreous gravel (clay with flints). Church in the evening [AM: presumably to celebrate Jubilee day].

Tuesday June 22nd 1897 was Jubilee day. It was fine and breezy. Good entertainment with sports under the direction of Mr Parks. Thursday June 24th 1897. Nice illuminations at Ightham Lodge with plenty of flags and bunting all round.

Wednesday 23rd June 1897 was very hot. Ted at home. BH gardened in the evening.

Thursday 24th June was once more an intensely hot day with a thunderstorm at 2. This storm caused massive destruction in Essex.

Friday June 25th Ted to cricket at Tonbridge, Kent v Middlesex. Temperature 86 [degrees Fahrenheit] in the shade.

Newspaper clipping about the storm and the destruction it caused.

Sunday 27th June 1897. Rain early morning which had cleared by 11. BH, Nurse, Ted and Mrs H to Exedown. Back via Terry's Lodge and Yaldham. BH spent some time copying out excursions with Professor and Mrs Prestwich.

P. 75. Newspaper clippings re: Ightham, and Queen Victoria's Jubilee, dated 20th July 1897.

Wednesday June 30th 1897 was again hot. There was a Jubilee treat at Frankfield. BH Walked at 5.30, to Stone Street via Seal Chart. Joined by Mrs BH and Nurse Rigby at 9 a.m.

Sunday July 4th 1897. Cool day. Started out at 8.30, driven by O...? to the hill fort with Mr Potter and then to Crowslands. Home via Woodlands, Cotmans, Ash, St Clere. Later the same day BH, Mrs BH, Ted and Nurse Rigby caught the train for Sevenoaks and went on to Abbott's, who was due to leave the following day. In garden inspecting photos of implements for lectures. Then a walk to Knole Park.

P. 75. Continues from previous page. From there they went to King John's Oak and home through Wilderness Park where they saw Colonel Underwood's son playing golf. They admired the view of the Holmsdale valley from Seal Churchyard. BH not tired despite a very full day.

July 6th 1897. BH and family startled to learn that PC Bradshaw had been dismissed while PC Tull had been reduced to the ranks following a serious offence committed at the Plough in Ivy Hatch following Mr Hale's Jubilee celebrations.

Printed notice of a KAS meeting July 27th 1897.

P. 76. Clipping from the *Daily News* of the publication of John Evans *Ancient Stone Implements*.

Thursday July 8th 1897. Mr Newton visited at 11 a.m. To High Fields and Isles's place. From there they were driven to Crowslands and on to Kingsdown. Lunch at Drain Patch where they found an ochreous flint with a bulb and an errillure. On returning examined the recently exposed section in Crowslands farmyard, 6ft deep with the exposure of Tertiary clay. Miss Bevington and Colonel Underwood call in the evening.

Saturday 10th July 1897. Lt. Collins from Aldershot called with maps and what BH describes as 'persuasive old olds with bulbs unmistakable'.

Sunday July 11th 1897 19897. Another hot day which BH spent at home with Tomkins [his brother-in-law] and Willie [his nephew].

Printed leaflet continued from the previous page re: a tour around Ightham and district involving a stop at BH's to see flint implements.

P. 77. July 12th 1897. Comment from Henry Walker re: BH's public trusteeship of the summit levels, followed by comment on the weather of that week (following the great heat).

July 16th 1897. Mr. Davis died that day. Comment re: the Currie Wood find and the level at which it was found, 300 ft. BH says '...the remarkable feature in this case is the elevation at which it was found, the level of the ground being 300 ft above the neighbouring valley of the Darent and upwards of 500 ft above the Sun? . Regarding the gravel, however as ?... with the valley of the Cray and not with that of the Darent, its elevation above the head of the valley is but slight. It is however necessary that further discoveries should be made in this district, before it will be safe to speculate on the origin of these gravels, and their relation to the superficial configuration of the neighbourhood'.

[?] July 1897. Evans. On a note re the Currie Wood find says:

'...I now come to the numerous and important discoveries made during the last thirty years by Mr. Benjamin Harrison of Ightham, which aided by Sir Joseph Prestwich's interpretation of them, have done much to revolutionise our ideas as to the age and character of the drift capping the chalk downs in western Kent, north of the escarpment facing the Weald.

All round Ightham, at different elevations above the bottom of the neighbouring valley of the Shode, Mr Harrison has succeeded in discovering Palaeolithic implements of flint, for the most part of oval and ovate forms, but not infrequently pointed. Fane Hill, Bewley, Chart Farm, Stone Pits Farm, Seal and Ash may be mentioned among the localities where his search was successful. He has also found nearly 50 implements in the talus of Oldbury Hill...

P. 78. Continued from previous page:

... some of those from seal at a height of 420 feet above ordnance datum and on what appeared to be the watershed between the Medway and the Darent. An almost circular specimen formed of ochreous flint found at Bewley Ightham is shown [456A]. For full particulars of the localities and their relative levels, the reader must be referred to Sir Joseph Prestwich's comprehensive paper on the occurrence of Palaeolithic flint implements in the neighbourhood of Ightham, Kent in which about 40 places are mentioned.

Since that paper was published, Mr Harrison aided by de Barri Crawshay, has extended his searches with the result that many more implements have been found at high elevations to the north of the escarpment of the chalk.

These discoveries enabled Sir Joseph Prestwich in another paper on the age of the formations and successive drift stages of the valley of the Darent, and the origin of the chalk escarpment still further to extend his interesting speculations.

It is true that he accepts as being of human manufacture, flints with bruised and battered edges, which I and some others venture to regard as owing their shape to purely natural causes. But fortunately this does not invalidate his arguments as in most cases where the so-called "Plateau types" have been found and more or less well-finished Palaeolithic implements of recognised form, though much abraded and deeply stained, have also been discovered.

The evidence of such witness is not impaired by calling in that of others of more doubtful character.

The continuous slope now extending from the neighbourhood of the Thames to the summit of the chalk escarpment, and in many places capped with implementiferous drift, appears to have continued southward within the limits of the human period over a part of what is now the Greensand area, if not indeed into that of the Weald; and subsequently the great valley that now intervenes between the Lower Greensand escarpment and the North Downs must have been excavated.

P.79. The entry from the previous page continues:

... Whatever causes we may assign for the changes in the surface configuration of this district, it must be born on all that the time required to effect them is beyond all ordinary means of communication.

The forgoing is part of an extract from the 1897 publication of the 2nd edition of *Ancient Stone Implements, Weapons and Ornaments of Great Britain* by Sir John Evans. It continues with an entry on coins¹¹ particularly in this instance with a coin found behind Plaxtol Grange. The question is asked if pottery was also found. It is

¹¹ Sir John Evans was also a most knowledgeable numismatist who chaired the Numismatists Society.

noted that several 'battle axes' were found but they had been discarded back into the trench. Sir John Evans was unable to identify the coin with certainty but thought it was Bactrian. He notes that it would be interesting to recover the axe heads. BH records that Mr Holbeck called to see Oldbury and the rock shelters. BH and his wife went to Plaxtol Grange to look over the house. He remarked on the wonderful views over the Shode Valley. From there they went to view the stone-tool bearing drifts around Hadlow. Says that Mr Knowles had found many Medieval coins there as well as 'battle axes' of iron. There are three sketches of battle-axes.

He discusses Persian provinces, though he may have taken this from the *Popular Encyclopaedia*.

Sunday July 25th 1897. Hot weather. BH to Fane Hill at 9 a.m. Home early (the heat must have driven him home) where he spent time copying extracts from John Evans' textbook as well as making autobiographical notes. Later made his way to Mr Hale at Ivey Hatch but he was out so BH walked around the grounds.

P. 80. 26th July 1897. A letter from Rev. Frampton re: the return of the old coin. Says it is a Bactrian coin from about the 4th c AD. On the same page is a post card from a French correspondent dated July 1875.

The printed original obituary of Augustus Woolaston Franks.

Tuesday July 27th 1897. Violent storm, so violent that it knocked the clock of BH's mantle piece.

Wednesday July 28th 1897. Fine day which saw BH make his way to Ivy Hatch to see Mr Hale at 9 where they arranged implements till 12.30. BH read his paper. Does not specify the meeting at which he read it but his tone suggests he was among friends who received it well. Mentions the presence of J. Allen Brown's brother and other absent friends wishing to be remembered to him.

P. 81. Continued from previous page. Mr Brent is mentioned as having visited BH in 1878 and recalling a visit to Colonel Lane Fox at his S. Kensington house to see his collection from all over the world, though he professes more interest in BH's local collection. Mentions Hales collection of 'bolas' from many sites in Europe and America.

An entry re: Mr Clinch, late of the British Museum who, with his wife, visited BH. The entry appears to suggest that she was the brother of Mr Allen Brown and who said his brother [AB] asked him to let BH know that Sir John 'had quite given way at his house and I put the question to him "may I tell Mr.. Harrison this?". "Yes, certainly do so". I was extremely sorry time was so short and that our meeting did not take place earlier as an exhaustive chat would have been pleasing'.

Friday July 30th 1897. Intensely hot again. J. Allen Brown visited at 10.45. They met at Dark Hill, walked across High Field and went on the Isles to Basted and the Upper Mill Pond, Basted, the fissure and home via Bigg's field, and the old patch above John Week's plantation. BH spent the afternoon arranging sets and mentions £100 for a series for someone who wanted a selection showing reversed work and plateau

flakes as well as one from pit for which £5.00 is charged, which was for Mrs Harrison's holiday. BH says it was so hot that the perspiration poured out of him.

Sunday August 1st 1897. Sketched all day. BH and wife to Parsonage Farm at 9.30.

P. 82. Bank Holiday 1897. Hot again. BH to Malling by train, then on to Leybourne Wood to flint and chert drift. To Ryarsh Church via park. Home via Addington.

Sunday August 8th 1897. Wet day. Mentions the *Black and White*, a publication featuring a geological work. The article had been copied from Sir John Evans's 'Recollections of Boucher de Perthes'

Sunday 15th August 1897. Letter to Ted, then sketching till 9. Train to Otford where he met Kennard. On to Oldbury rock shelters. Home, then to Fane Hill, the rampart sands section and then to Basted and the fissure.

Wednesday 18th August 1897. A show held in Meopham which, BH says, was 'good'.

Thursday August 19th 1897. Driven to Crowdleham common with Mr Casey. Picked blackberries and visited the Rising Sun. On to Knockmill, Two Chimney House and Exedown before heading home.

Sunday 22nd August 1897. Mr Casey visited BH. Planned trip to Hadlow cancelled owing to problems with the trap. Instead BH, Casey and Austen go to Oldbury and Crown Point brick earth pit, Frankfield and Stonepits. All enjoyed this walk. To Buley at 11 and rewarded with the find of a 'nice little cave implement, with a strange twist'.

Sunday August 29th 1897. Rain. Kennard and BH to fissure returning laden with spoil. Then both go to Court Lodge and High field.

September 1st 1897. A Wet start to the month.

September 2nd 1897. Finlay and wife call on BH. Lizzie down.

September 5th 1897. Mr and Mrs Hodd visited BH. Wet all day with a gale overnight. BH out only to West Bank.

Tuesday 7th September 1897. To Wall's brickyard where BH observed the flint in the gault. Notes the presence of some blocks of flint. On to Platt Common. Then on to Telegraph house and home. Very heavy thunderstorm over towards the north east.

Wednesday 8th September 1897. BH, Mrs BH and others to St Clere and Obham Wood they picked blackberries. On to the Rising Sun.

Sunday September 12th 1897. BH missed Kennard at Kemsing station. Caught up with him at Styants Bottom from where they go on to the fissure and bay Shaw and then on to Redwell gravel spread.

From here the account continues from the back of the volume.

Newspaper clipping announcing the death of Sir Joseph Prestwich. A fulsome obituary notice from the Proceedings of the Royal Society, written by Sir John Evans

Overpage. Sketch of three eoliths types by Joseph Prestwich with a scribbled note ' I am pleased to say I had a good report from my artist who says... is not organic but ... to functional... which... remembered by Gladstone'. This was written when JP was infirm and the handwriting is illegible.

Letter from JP sent from Darent Hulme 24th November ? year:

'Dear Sir, Thanks for the journal and sketches. The single outline is just right. I now want a good specimen of the double curve shaped. The single one I have. The specimens from Thenay... is my guide. I take it to be a derived specimen that is the nature of the gravel at Ams..t where found? The evidence afforded by the Neolithic implement in connection with the dam is also good. I enclose Mr. Evans cheque for £5 in executive acct and he asks whether you are likely to want...'

The conclusion to this letter is probably overleaf but, as the letter has been glued in, is unavailable to the reader.

Overpage. Unattributed newspaper clippings re: Sir Joseph Prestwich and a small photograph by Elliot and Fry, of London.

Overpage. Funeral Saturday June 27th 1896 at 12.45. By train to Sevenoaks to meet Crawshay and Mrs Abbott. BH met Sir John Evans who shook his hand. BH sat next to Professor Prestwich's nephew at lunch. Shook hand with Dr Hicks who told BH to follow in the footsteps of Joseph Prestwich and he'd be right. More newspaper clippings re: Sir Joseph Prestwich. Unattributed newspaper clippings, dated June 27th.

Overpage. More newspaper clipping re: Sir Joseph Prestwich. Original letter from Sir Joseph dated 30th March 1895. Enclosed a report and a cheque for £10. Writing illegible. The payment must have been for all BH's work 'figuring' the specimens for publication in JP's paper.

Overpage. More newspaper clippings re: Sir Joseph Prestwich, one of which is from *Nature* of July 2nd 1896.

Overpage. More newspaper clippings re: Sir Joseph Prestwich, one of which is from *New York World* dated June 24th 1896. There are additionally, two about Oliver Wendell Holmes. Copy of a letter from James Geikie informing BH of the death of Joseph Prestwich, dated July 7th 1896.

Overpage. Photograph and copy of the Shoreham Parish Magazine telling of the life and death of Sir Joseph Prestwich. Continues for three pages and has an extract of the address to the geological Society, on June 24th 1896, by the President of the Society, Dr Henry Hicks. As well as this extract there is another taken from the *Geological Magazine* of the 24th June of 1893 that contains the life of JP and which is written by Henry Woodward.

An extract from an unattributed magazine with the thoughts of Oliver Wendell Holmes.

Copy of a letter from J Allen Brown to BH dated February 13th 1897. He returns three Plateau specimens to BH as well as an implement, which he refers to as 'Mesolithic' which he considers to be older than the polished Neolithic implements. Discusses the eoliths BH had sent him, which he is sure are artefacts. Notes one especially, 545, a surface find, as being 'chipped by the hand of man'. Another from pit 3 he thought was a probable artefact, though not as convincing as some of the others.

Overpage. Letter continues. Cites John Evans as suggesting that all three had been made by man! [AM: It is possible that these specimens were actually stone tools as all three are noted to have had bulbs of percussion.] Sketch of what is described as an implement with two hollows. The letter seems written to assure BH of the good opinion of John Evans in relation to his finds, despite the latter's unwavering scepticism about eoliths. There is a small sketch of what appears to be an eolith with two concave surfaces separated by a convex, rounded point.

This completes Volume 14 of the Benjamin Harrison archive held at Maidstone Museum.

For and on behalf of Maidstone Museum and Bently Art Gallery
Angela Muthana 20th December 2014