

Maidstone Museum

Benjamin Harrison Archive

Volume 20

[The volume contains notes made by BH starting in 1900, as indicated by an entry on page 1, top right hand corner.]

P.1. An article by Sir John Evans entitled 'Palaeolithic Man in Africa', that was read on the 31st May 1900. An interesting article that details some of the discoveries of Mr H W. Seton-Karr, in Africa.¹

P. 2. Three newspaper articles, two of which appear to be in celebration of the relief of Mafeking². Kipling's poem 'Route Marchin' is parodied. The Queen's birthday was also celebrated.

The third article deals with the material from *Natural Science*, in which BH's work is alluded to. He is described as having been 'shut out' from the world of science and as having recognised five distinct lithic periods.

Diary entry for June 2nd 1900, Whit Sunday was a fine day that saw BH journey to Wrotham brickyard where he and Hodd inspected some Roman remains as well as noting some Iron Age remains found on a sandy knoll there. In the evening BH, Percy Martin, his father and housekeeper went walking to Kemsing common where they met Tebbs .

On 3rd June 1900 BH took the trap to Parsonage Farm with Mrs BH, Elsie and Connie Tinsie. BH went off to meet Hodges, who had some 'spoils'. They searched the pit field and returned home via Exedown. Came across Bonner's party on the way where they were 'refreshed'. Mentions afternoon cricket. Notes the death of Mrs Tyler Dutton.

P. 3. A copy of Spurrell's opinion on the trenches and hollows in Church Wood, dated 14th May ?1900: 'Concerning the rifle pits at Kingsdown. I know the place and think the hollows old Dene holes. As to military remains of the gunpowder period of course it is impossible as nothing of the sort has occurred there. Then on all about the woods on the barer parts of the N. Downs still remaining enclosures of the pre Roman and savages period for the ground there has only lately been brought into cultivation but they are only of local interest and circumscribed in area'.

June 5th 1900, was Pretoria Day. D Lipscombe passed through Ightham at 3pm and announced that Pretoria had been taken. Another visitor called later and confirmed this, having been at Boro' Green when the wire came and at 5.30, Hassell produced the evening paper, which confirmed the fact. BH sent word of this to the Rectory and Mr

¹ Of which collection Maidstone Museum has some examples.

² The second Boer War took place between 1899-1901. There was great celebration when, on May 17th 1900, the siege of Mafeking was finally ended having lasted since the 13th October 1899.

Parks. The local children's choir arrived to sing the National Anthem at 4.30 for which BH gave them a bottle of sweets.

P.4. A poem entitled 'French' (with apologies to Rudyard Kipling).

P. 5. The poem continues and concludes.

A newspaper clipping about the possibility of century medals in cricket.

A photograph of William Selby.

The ghost of a paper clipping that has been inserted into cuttings book.

Newspaper clipping about the possibility of another Bank Holiday which, it is suggested, might be called Empire Day.

P. 6. Cartoon about the relief of Mafeking entitled 'Bobs and the baby'.³

Copy of a letter from FJ Bennett, dated June 12th 1900:

'yesterday I was in town after your business of the British Association finds and I believe that it can be settled to your satisfaction. I saw Woodward, Clement Reid and Rudler. The latter showed me your eoliths that are on view at Jermyn Street in cases and in open drawers and Mr R has promised me that if you send him some 6 specimens say (no more) of the British Association Grant finds he will exhibit with your labels. Reid tells me that as Secretary to the Committee, the matter is quite in your hands and that if you send some of the finds to the British Museum and also to South Kensington you will have done your duty. So send say 6 to the British Museum, South Kensington and Jermyn Street and Maidstone and then Woodward says you can do what you like with the rest, but if you sell any you perhaps had better not say that particular ones were British Association specimens'

P. 7. Continues from the previous page.

'When you have sent to the above Museums you can impart what you have done to the Chairman. The British Association leaves all those matters to the various committees appointing and don't want to be bothered any further on the matter'.

Small newspaper clipping about Dr Munro and his views on religion and Palaeolithic people.

Copy of a letter from Dr Allen Sturge dated June 16th 1900 from an address in Bad Mannheim, Germany:

³ The 'baby' in this case was Lord Roberts, who was succeeded by Lord Kitchener ('Bobs'). Roberts conceived the idea of concentrations camps for those Boers whose land and farmsteads were captured by the British. Over 26,000 women and children died of disease and malnutrition in the camps before the war ended.

‘Many thanks for your letter with the copy of the paper by Sir John Evans and also his paper of the Dewlish ?... .

Sir John’s paper has very little that is new save very fine paleos have been found in Algiers before and what he has to say about Egypt and Somaliland and South Africa is only what we knew abundantly before. It was of course worth recording the finding (of) the palaeos with the bones in Algeria. I should like to see the stones found in the East Midland’s ... by Mr Blackmore.

From what I saw of his Eos from the Salisbury neighbourhood in the Blackmore Museum I fancied that Blackmore casts his net rather widely and includes a great many. You would put in your suspense account if not altogether outside your lists...’

P. 8. A programme of local entertainment for, and by, local people.

Diary entry for June 19th 1900. Hot day, BH notes the opening speech by Mr Gordon probably refers to the programme in which various members of the Evans family are recorded as taking part. BH obviously attended and enjoyed remarking that Miss Marjorie Gordon ‘excelled herself’ despite the room being very stuffy. The entertainment was repeated the following night.

P.9 Newspaper clipping of a review of Edward Clodd’s biography of Grant Allen.

Copy of a letter from Mr Bullen dated 18th June 1900 on the Victoria Institute paper: ‘There was a very fair attendance, considering the want of advertising. I hope your implement will reach you safely. Mr Montague promised to send them safely. Professor Rupert Jones spoke well, so did Stopes. Professor Hull entered a caveat against the Pliocene age of the Dewlish specimens, or rather the Alderbury ie S[outhern] Drift. He did not deny the human workmanship, but concluded that they were mid-Pleistocene! Some on setting on. Many thanks for the loan of the series, which was excellent. R A B’.

P. 10. Letter from Mr Clodd to BH dated 21st June 1900:

‘... many thanks for letting me see the batch of interesting letters returned herein.

I am very sorry not to have had the opportunity of referring to or quoting from them, when preparing the memoirs. I sent a request for any letters to be sent to me in the Athenaeum, but probably you didn’t see it. Allen always spoke of the deep interest in your work, and has appreciation of all you were doing to establish man’s high antiquity in NW Europe’.

Some thoughts on the Rose Wood hut circles with a comment thus. ‘On some ?... collections of shallow pits in Norfolk and elsewhere Spurrell. The names associated with these collections are curious. The word Rose, Rough, Row and Rue, with such differences as the spelling permits are common and suggestive to the field archaeologists of excavation. It may be also that the Celtic Rhos, or waste land, is a sufficient explanation in some instances, but in others it is not so. Roseburg is the

name of a collection of hut circles in Cleveland, and between Scarborough and Whitby a clearly marked collection of hut holes is called the Reasis?’

P. 11. Daily diary entry for Sunday June 25th 1900. Mrs H away in Margate. BH out to Eynesford and Maplescombe despite the oppressive weather. He received visitors in the evening and also managed to finish plate 1V of the pit series.

June 25th 1900. Rupert Jones. BH attended the Victoria Institute and heard the Rev Bullen’s lecture on Eoliths. He was obviously pleased that his good work was recognised and looked forward to reading the published version of this lecture. Intimations of further, even microscopic examination of the specimens, in which it seemed Mr Chapman might be involved.

An account of a lecture by Dr. Allen Sturge on a revisitation of the phenomenon of Kent’s Cavern, dated January 15th 1898 and subsequently published: Vol 1 No 2. In *Antiquarian Gossip*.

P. 12. A newspaper clipping re: the opening of a recreation room in Ightham, largely funded by the concert, previously mentioned and organised by Mrs H. Evans Gordon. In it two of the soldiers from Ightham fighting in the Boer war are mentioned, one is a member of the Holman family, the others, also from well-established Ightham families, Anquitell and Baldwin.

Daily diary entry for Sunday July 1st 1900 Miss ?B... staying. Dr. Blundell and friends visit BH and they all go to Exedown in the evening to see the bee orchids. To Heaverham then home as it began to rain. BH notes that bee orchids are also found in Ightham Parish field. A thunderstorm followed the day after this excursion.

A few thoughts on staircases, dated July 3rd 1900 with sketches which show how a ‘primitive’ staircase could be carved from a tree trunk without recourse to the skills of a carpenter.

P. 13. Newspaper clipping re: the exhibition at University College London, of Flinders Petrie’s Egyptian exhibition, not dated. Followed by separate article from either a paper or journal, entitled ‘The Neolithic Epoch in Ancient Egypt’, which is illustrated with the types of flint knives common there and the methods of production. This article continues on to P. 15 and discusses several sites in Egypt and topics related rather more generally to Egyptology.

P.14. Article continues from previous page

P.15. Article from previous page concludes.

P. 16. A repeat of the article on Clodd’s biography of Grant Allen and a clipping about GA in *Antibes*.

Small clipping of a poem related to the Boer War by ‘the Chronicle’s “Coster poet” ’.

Article, extracted from the *Geological Magazine* Decade 1V, Vol V11 No 433, p.326 July 1900, on The Seton Karr collection of Stone implements from Egypt.

Sunday July 15th 1900. WM Newton visits BH and they head off to Plaxtol via Sheet Hill, Church House, High Birches, Raspit Hill, Crown Point, Brick earth works, Middle Wood Rocks, Mount Pleasant and Rocky Hollows arriving home at 2. BH saw Newton on to the 5.59 train. He chatted to a very elderly gentleman and young lady at the station who was laden with Pyramidal orchids They exchanged cards. His name was Dr Liveing of Cavendish Square.

Notes that there were huckleberries [we would call them blueberries] on Oldbury Hill.

Monday July 16th ? 1900. Heat increases and BH notes the temperature levels, it being 92 degrees Fahrenheit.

P. 17. Clippings from *The Times* re: Clodd's memoir of the late Grant Allen. Tiny clipping re: BHs annuity of £26.00 as a testament to his researches into prehistoric flint implements.

Copy of a letter from AS Woodward: '... An American Professor A S Pickard would like to come and spend an afternoon with you on the Plateau. Would you kindly meet him and myself any afternoon within the next week except Wednesday or Sunday. If so, we should be delighted. I congratulate you on your latest ?... and good fortune. Yours sincerely A. Smith Woodward'.

Sunday 22nd July 1900. BH notes another hot day that saw him begin work at 5 and continue all day without a break. In the evening he walked to Crown Point via Crowson's Path.

P. 18. Tuesday July 24th 1900. Visited by the Mayor of Chatham and the Rector, Wardens and Chair of St. Johns. BH spent a long time in the Museum with them. Very hot again.

An account of a visit from Smith Woodward and Professor Pickard of the Brown University Museum, USA.⁴ BH met them from the 2.44 train and took them to the Basted Fissure and from there via some places which he deemed to have been of interest, to Oldbury, where the trap was waiting. Small sketch of the geological formation, elaborated upon by BH to his visitors. Refers to a paper by Prestwich on this topic and the effect of a period of glaciation on such a landscape. Woodward commented on the probable Pliocene age of this geology. This prompts BH to refer to his paper, referred to by Bell and Stanley, in which he notes the Pliocene nature of some implements (almost certainly eoliths). He discusses Abbe Bourgeois' finds and asks if they are Pliocene or Miocene, which Woodward is unable to answer. Much discussion on the shape of implements and the reasons for non-acceptance. BH found this discussion 'comforting' and notes that afterwards, when they had obviously indulged in some museum time to view BH's eoliths, Woodward accepted them and made reference to those sent to Washington.

⁴ BH has spelt this gentleman's name as both Packard and Pickard but in this letter it can most clearly be seen as the latter

P. 19. The account from the previous page continues and more visits seem to have been undertaken. Woodward's train was 20 minutes late, which gave them time to talk. BH describes that time as 'creamy' and the best part of the day. An article ? (journal unclear), by Henry Stopes entitled 'Pleistocene Man in the Thames Gravels' besides which are unrelated sketches of pottery and what BH describes as 'curiosities' found near Prestons (Ightham).

P. 20. Sketch of two sides of a celt found near Meopham.

Sunday July 28th 1900. BH Writing and gardening for 2 hours then on to the fissure with Abbott and his wife. Thunder rumbling around.

July 30th 1900. BH sends his specimens off to Woodward at the British Museum, a set of ten.

July 31st 1900. BH found a 'Humble' (by which he means a bumble) bee crawling on the floor, which he took and placed on a sweet pea whose behaviour he then observes. Sketch of sweet pea.

P. 21. Account from previous page continues... BH compares the movement of the bee with that of a magpie which he observed flew across to a yellow stem rose on which, club-like process, which BH notices on the bee, recoils into place. He recalls that he watched this several times on different flowers and noticed the deposition of the pollen from each flower, on the bees back. BH describes this as 'burglary' as opposed to the way in which the honey bee performs its task. There follow sketches of petals and part of a flower that illustrate the topic of evolution, which BH then goes on to consider. This he does by copying parts of a treatise on evolution by A Wilson. This concludes on p 22. It is dated August 1900.

P. 22. Newspaper cutting with an account of a visit by the ?...sham Antiquarian Society to Swanscombe, under the direction of Henry Stopes. Not dated.

On Bank Holiday Sunday, 5th August 1900, BH writes that he rose at 6 and went into the garden to do four hours work, weeding, sweeping, pruning etc: Kennard visited at 12.30 and they talked for hours about the place in Stanley Quarry, which had yielded human remains. It seems that these remains were of part of a skull and the jaw. It seems as if this is a local quarry as BH suggests that these bones were found under a pile of Kentish rag blocks. He illustrates this with a small sketch. This continues to p 23.

P. 23. Accompanied Kennard to the train. 6th August 1900. Bank holiday so BH got up at 6.30. As conditions made writing etc: less than desirable BH decided to garden again, this time in the front garden. Rector passed by and BH sought his opinion, though on what he does not state.

At 11.30 BH took the trap and drove to the foot of the chalk escarpment at St Clere, East Lodge with Ted and Elsie. They alighted and made their way to the reservoir via Beeches. On to Wrotham Hill by the old road. It rained, they departed for home. BH spent the evening sketching.

7th August 1900. BH, Ted, Agnes and Elsie got the 9.45 train, though where to he does not specify.

Wednesday 8th August 1900. To Fane Hill and Oldbury where he met John Leney and his wife and daughter who accompanied him to Rose Wood.

Large picture of Sir John Lubbock MP.

P. 24. A clipping from ? where, which explains that the portrait on the previous page is a hitherto unpublished one which Lord Avebury donated on the opening of a portrait gallery.

Sunday August 12th 1900. Fine day Mrs H, Miss Sage and BH out for a jaunt which took them past Ightham Park. In the evening they went out again visiting Stanley's hop garden and Fane Hill. In these places BH notes grebes and their young as well as swans, trout and a snake in the water. They also visited Stanley's quarry and BH secured two urns which had been found, there is a sketch of both, one of which was filled with ashes and burnt bone. Also found a well-worked leaf shaped arrow head, which he has sketched.

P. 25. Sketch of the level at which the urns were found in Stanley's quarry. Mr. George Payne called two days after the urns were found. He had a particular interest in barrows and informed BH that he had opened one nearby of great interest and had made many sketches of it. He had noticed it owing to the sterile outline in a cornfield. He informed BH that many such barrows had been levelled in Kent and that in East Kent such monuments abound. BH talks about the barrow at Bayfield, Borough Green. BH informed him about the skeleton in Stanley's quarry, which interested Payne.

Copy of a letter from George Payne dated 15th August 1900:

'...Many thanks for the discovery shall be duly recorded in your name as usual. I shall have to go to the ?note/Mote again when I bring the map and get you to mark the site. Other discoveries will follow in the quarry so "lay the plant" I described. Penshurst to the Sussex Archaeological Society: today. Started at 7.30 and returned 10.30. I would rather have preached on Oldbury and Harrison! A man in office is called upon to do so many things, a bit out of his line, but as long as I live I shall do my best to help when help is needed and appreciated. Yours faithfully, Geo Payne'

P.26. Notes on the first quarrying undertaken at Stanley's quarry. This revolves around archaeology discovered at this site, which reflects Roman and possibly Iron Age activity.

Sunday August 19th 1900. Hot again. Spent the day sorting stones into types in his loft. Went to Stanley's quarry in the evening.

August 21st 1900. An expected box arrived safely with the urns, which had been identified as dating to 300 years BC, at which news Ben rejoiced. Sketch of the urns besides which BH has written that he has all the fragments of one urn but the other is incomplete. Resolves to tell Geo Payne the age of the urns.

P. 27. Letter from Dr. H.P. Blackmore dated 21st August 1900:

‘Please accept my best thanks for the eoliths sent. I should have written before but had to go for a few days to explore a cave with a friend. It turned out not so old as I hoped, in fact was only accepted in Neolithic with no evidence of any extinct mammalia.

Lord Avebury has practically passed by the Eolithic period and apparently got over any scruples he may have had by accepting a preglacial age for man’s appearance on earth. The main points to be insisted on and brought out in my opinion are:

- I. The totally different character of the Eolithic work, hacking at right angles rather than chipping
- II. The definite forms of the tools showing similarity of design or purpose from widely separate localities
- III. The fairly uniform height of deposits in which eoliths are found: differing greatly in age of deposit from the more recent river drifts or Palaeolithic gravels

Sir John Evans argument as to use is nothing. We don’t really know how the oval Palaeolithic implements were used, but no one now doubts the human workmanship. A vast number of tools would never have been made of a special pattern unless they were applied to a special and definite purpose. Keep your eyes open and collect the Neolithic forms of flint which resemble the old Eoliths – for you will find man do so and this is a strong argument even if you can’t say what they were used for. Yours truly HP Blackmore’

P. 28. Sunday August 26th 1900. Daily diary entry records a nice, bright day and BH started out at 7.45 for St. Clere, Drain woodlands, Maplescombe and Eynesford reaching home by 1.30. Mrs H had a meeting at Mists so BH lunched at the Five Bells with Ben Brice with whom he had a long chat and was introduced to his 2 year old tame badger! BH comments on the geology and other phenomena seen on his walk. Of course, the gravel spreads and the terraces are his main concern.

He searched a strip of Brussels [sprouts] and found flints bearing what he describes as ‘work’. Comments on one large block of Oldbury stone the exact site of which he does not make clear, buried on a stone heap. Found one notable quartzite pebble. Also, makes mention of blocks of puddingstone near some farm buildings in the valley. After this he made his way to Fane Hill noting the increasing presence of small harbinger clouds, which heralded a gale from the NE. It was cold enough to make them light the fire. Goes on to qualify his description of the morning as ‘Fine and bright’.

Two dates 27/8 and 28/8. Monday and Tuesday ‘About as unusual as possible’, persistent cold rain. BH to Fane Hill, Styants Bottom and Seven Wents. Hop picking started.

P. 29. 30th August 1900. Mr and Mrs Cannell called. Sketch of three views of a Palaeolithic stone tool found on Fane Hill by Bassett, dated August 30th 1900.

On September 1st 1900, Saturday, BH came on Skinner who claimed he had been assaulted and robbed of his stones found at Fawkham at the pit in Exedown. BH informed the local PC who investigated the incident but found no trace of anything. The landlord who said he (Skinner) had been seen on Saturday, lying at noon near the Wrotham chalk pit. BH comments: 'Here ends a tale of mystery and deceit'.

BH notes the presence of over 30 'Gippo' caravans, going on to note that it seemed cruel to start [moving] them as they had settled nicely, cooking and washing, but the Corporal insisted that they be moved on. BH describes how speedily the fowl jumped up into their boxes and the remark of one of the women; 'They know as well as we do'. A few more lines of almost illegible narrative about his incident follow.

P. 30. Tuesday September 4th 1900. BH got the 9.50 train to Otford. He notes the white flakes 'in abundance' below the hedges. Comments on the *Cryoglossum officinale* at the top of the same field.

On arrival he examined Wick field, in which mangolds were growing. Further on he found some 'rudes', illustrated below the text. He goes on to examine the side of the valley NW of Goodbury farm where he notes the tertiary caps of the drift. Discovers, from his chat with an old workman in the field, that the field to the NW of the house is a bed of sand. This area, it is noted, was full of water that was said to run out of the bank after the rains.

BH thought the clayey bed at the bottom held it back, BH had a 'blackberry feast', and arrived home at 2, 'a new creature in every way'

Sunday September 9th 1900. BH has a visit from Stanley Casey. BH and Mrs BH out to Winfield Hill, Basted and then home where he finished the Aylesford pals for Professor Park... and Mr. Newton.

P. 31. A newspaper clipping from *The Times* September 7th 1900 and entitled 'The Pleistocene Gravels of West Wickham' by Santer Kennard. There is a sketch of three views of a pal that was found on a stone heap near High Cross near Wrotham Hill and sent to Lord Avebury on September 13th 1900. A note in Edward Harrison's hand directs the reader to p41 for Mr Clinch's reply and Kennard's rejoinder.

P. 32. Copy of a letter from EJ Newton dated September 14th 1900. Written on behalf of the Museum of Practical Geology, Newton thanks BH for the gift of nine chipped flints, which he refers to as eoliths and notes that they were obtained from pits dug in the Plateau gravels, near Ash, Kent under the auspices of the British Association.

Another letter from Newton, same date, thanks BH again for the 9 eoliths and encloses a journal. Small postcard size paper with a sketch of a pal found whilst on a walk, from which BH was obliged to return early. A broken pal was found in a pit in Buley. The sketch was made by Kennard.

A copy of a letter from F Chapman dated 14th September 1900 with which are enclosed his notes on the constituents of the loams and gravels of Sevenoaks.

Sunday September 16th 1900. BH and Kennard at home till evening when they strolled to Buley and found the broken pal referred to earlier. Beautiful sunset.

P. 33. Copy of a letter from A Foster Fergusson of South Devon dated 19th September 1900:

‘Dear Sir, I expect that you have long ago forgotten me. I stayed some four years ago at Vennels, in the village of Ightham, and you were so very kind as to show me and my wife some of your many geological treasures.

You were so busy that you could only give us a very short time, and promised on some future occasion (which now presents itself) to let us become more fully acquainted with your life and work.

I have been asked by a good London paper to write for it an account of some men whose work entitles them to the interest of the public: and it struck me at once that the work you had done for science amid all your other occupations; and the discoveries you have made (not unattended I believe with a tinge of romance) would be a most acceptable paper.

Would you please allow me to come and spend an hour or two with you one day at your leisure and convenience and that I may see you again and the wonderful things you have collected. I know how willing you are to help who have but little knowledge of these things which are the breath of life to you, otherwise I would not ask the favour.

I leave Devonshire for London on Monday next. My address is 77 Elsham Rd, Kensington W. I am yours truly A Foster Fergusson. I could arrange to come over almost any day after October 1st. Kindly reply as soon as possible’

P. 34. In a hand other than BH’s, two names and addresses, Kate Richardson and Laura Eveline Hall, as well as the Rathbone’s, the Halls and Sydney Sandle, dated 29/9/00.

Sunday September 23rd BH and wife go to Otford station and then on to Ash where they are ‘refreshed’. Home at 2.30. Sloes and blackberries abundant. A chat at 4pm with Percy Martin and his father. Two pals, watercolours both from north Ash: one a triangular the other ovate.

P. 35. Wednesday September 16th 1900. A walk to Plaxdale and Ash. The rest of the day spent arranging stones. More watercolours of what appear to be eoliths. Visit from FJ Bennett at 11.30 and they walked, which BH notes did him good. Read George Newman’s book on his return. A note to the effect that Bout’s Hole equates to South Ash.

P. 36. Friday September 28th 1900. Mr NF Roberts visited at 11am. They set off at 11.45 on the Exedown Road observing the geology. Notes a dene hole, though where is not made explicit. On to Knockmill gravel pit where they inspected what BH calls the chalk pillars which he says were ‘puddled up with pebbles’ Mr Sugden kindly refreshed BH after which they observe the Drain Coombe valley after which Mr Roberts got the 4.16 train home.

Sunday September 30th 1900. Fine day with storm clouds forming. Mr and Mrs Reid of Ightham visited, and spent time with BH in the museum. At 3pm received two visitors, Mr Requitter and Evans (not Sir John Evans). To the station in the evening, to see off his two visitors then back via Fane Hill, which he 'scoured' being rewarded with a 'pale flake'.

An undated note from Mr NF Robarts on chalk pillars, or nicol, in Knockmill gravel bed in which he informs Whittaker of their existence and of the promise to come down when BH reports on what he has found. Instructions are given as to what BH should look for. Whittaker's first thought is that the phenomenon may be the side of a pipe. Mr Robarts disagrees with Whittaker's conclusion believing instead that the pebbles were in-situ as deposited.

P. 37. Wednesday October 3rd 1900. Mr Ferguson visited BH at 1.30 and took photographs of Joseph Prestwich and sketches from pictures in old notebooks as well as other pictures from *Prehistoric Times*. BH accompanied him to the station after tea and a long chat from where he went on to Harvest Festival.

There then follows an entry entitled 'Biblical knowledge: novel incident'. The usual Victorian tale with a moral purpose.

P. 38. Copy of a letter from Hazzledine Warren, dated October 1st 1900:

'Dear Sir, I am much obliged to you for sending me these specimens – as it happens I can give you an unbiased opinion as I examined them before I looked at the labels or read your letter. The first one I opened was the one chipped all round that you refer to as No.2. I said to myself – no! that won't do – it might possibly have been chipped by man, but there is no distinctive mark of mind upon it. (In my judgement) it is due to natural causes. When I opened the one you mark No. 2 [BH must have miscopied the numbers and the first No 2 is in fact No. 1], my thoughts ran Hello this is different, this most certainly looks like human work, but it cannot be from the Plateau drift – the fractures are quite fresh, too fresh for even Neolithic. I turned it over and saw "made"⁵ – there is evidence of designed flaking on this example that appears to me to be wanting on the others. I am very sorry not to be able to say much but I can only speak as they appear to me. I know that the evidence from minimal condition must be used with caution and is only applicable within certain limits, but within these limits it is a safe guide...

P. 39. A small sketch of No 2 is inserted between paragraphs. The letter continues onto this page with another small sketch of an eolith from Maplescombe:

...Now the older surfaces of the smallest specimen are deeply ochreous, abraded and scratched but the chippings on the edge are unabraded and white and lustrous.

⁵ On the BH flaked specimens in the possession of the transcriber is written "Fecit" or handmade. This is presumably what Hazzledine Warren is referring to here

Do the flints on the Plateau drift – or rather do the eastern pale impts found in association with the Plateau drift ever show such surfaces as this?

Are not all the early impts from the Plateau drift that are undoubted impts abraded and much altered in condition? Speaking from memory I think I have seen some that are whitish or grey but I have certainly seen more that show this unabraded white lustrous surface – I should be glad to know if you have any. I think the question does not receive the attention it deserves. Pale impts are frequently white and Neolithic impts sometimes ochreous it has fallen into discredit and condition is thought to be a little or no value.

I shall certainly hope to avail myself of your invitation to see your collection. I do not know if you are often in London, if so, I should like you to see mine as there are many things on which I want your opinion and then you could see my series of forgeries too. Otherwise I will try and select a few to send for your inspection. I also have some of the same forgers work given to me by the same Doctor as you mention’.

P. 40. There follows a post -script to the foregoing letter:

‘I hope I shall not keep your specimens too long. In doubtful cases (either respecting human work or ?figures) I do not like to trust wholly to first impressions, but to put the specimens aside and look at it once or twice a day.

I fully admit that the beak shaped outlier is very catchy and fascinating but it still seems just a stone. To my judgement that the difference between the two examples is one of kind, in the one you made, the shape is produced by disguised flaking, in the other it is due to all accidental chips.

I shall be glad if you would tell me what you think about the question – the chipped edges being in some cases so much later than the brown staining and abrasion of the Plateau drift flints while in other cases I believe they were before the staining. I should much like to get fuller information on this point’.

Sunday October 7th 1900. BH out to St Clere in Martin’s trap. He describes the day as ‘A day of days’. Having left the trap at St. Clere, accompanied by Potter and his children, he rambled through the countryside observing the geology and on the lookout for lithics, of which of course he found some examples as they proceeded towards Eynesford and the Darent Valley.

P.41. EH adds to BH’s original entry, explaining that he read this page for the first time in 1924. BH tells the reader that he called in to the Five Bells at Eynesford for a moment or two where he was shown a stone font-like object, which he sketched from memory. The local church is Norman and the suggestion is that the font must have originally been in the church. BH attended evensong. He records sending two plates of figures to SG Fenton in London. Edward Harrison writes ‘On Sunday June 29th I read this page for the first time. On Monday June 30th 1924 I called at the Five Bells, Eynesford. Mr Brice, the landlord, showed it, I bought it for a £1’.

Newspaper clipping of letters in *The Times* by Clinch and Kennard re; the Drift Gravels at West Wickham. The disagreement, and dislike, between the two is undisguised in their correspondence via the letters section of the newspaper.

P. 42. October 10th 1900. 'Having heard from Professor Judd re: Plateau pit set I forwarded this and the others to Sir John Evans, chairman and also Professor Seeley'. Copy of the work of GJ Hinds entitled 'Notes on gravels of Croydon and its neighbours'. Continues to p 48. This is part of a published work and will not be reproduced here.⁶

P. 49. Part of a newspaper clipping re; a walk or trip in the Seal area. Additional small clipping re: the local rail service.

P. 50. October 12th 1900. Fine day, which saw BH start out at 9am. He rode from Coney field to Boro' Green with Mr Durling and on to Birches east OD level 763 ft, at which there was a 'marked eo' (it is not very clear what BH means). From there to Crowslands path beside the wood but 'no ochreous'. From there on to Knockmill and down the hollow road where BH observes a considerable number of pebbles in the drift beside the road. He continued to search the low level gravels finding no ochreous stones until he reached the raspberry plantation where he found two bearing work. Met Mr Rogers and went in for refreshment and a long chat. Mr Rogers informed BH that he relied upon his imagination too much. Quotes part of a work by Emerson before adding that he caught the train home at 5pm and adding that (presumably on the journey home) that he examined the large boulders of pebble conglomerate in the pond in front of the house. Estimates that the blocks might weigh ½ ton.

P. 51 Ash, October 14th 1900. Out at 7am on a cold breezy day. To Stansted via malt house, at which BH turned off at a right angle and made his way to the scarp slope where he found a most interesting spread of coarse flint gravel which he followed for some way. Resolves to go again. Mentions Evans in relation to a pal, possibly that sketched below the text on which is written 'An interesting Mesolith?'⁷ or as Evans would say "It might be of any age"'. There follow sketches of what BH describes as '4 very persuasive eos'.

P. 52. Sketches of two eoliths and three pals. EH adds 'see p. 55 for Sir JE's opinion'.⁸

From Roger's field in Ash at 510ft OD, BH describes a marvellous illustration of a pitted flint which BH says makes it hard to accept it as an implement. The reverse is not pitted.

⁶ Proceedings and Transactions of the Croydon Microscopical and Natural History Club p 229 Vol 1V 1886 (1887). Newman and Co, Hatton Garden, London

⁷ This is a nice example of BH making reference to what is a small eolith and using a term (Mesolith) understood now in a very different context. It is important to have this in mind when reading his work.

⁸ The two palaeolithic implements are quite distinct from the eoliths sketched here. One is a fairly crude pointed hand axe on a cobble, the other a rather fine Ficron with a corticated butt.

P. 53. BH sketch of '3 interesting Neoliths'. More sketches follow of rude implements from Wormsheath 800ft OD and found by Mr NF Robarts October 13th 1900.

P.54. Copy of a letter from Mr Robarts re: one of BH's sketches of an implement. Another, original letter, dated 23rd October 1900 which he records his searches in Wormsheath at various heights above sea-level.

Extract from pp 3 and 10 of a publication, not given, re: the Kentish plateau as viewed from Shingle Hill. A comparison with the Russian Steppe, where, it is noted tumuli are to be found.

P. 55. Copy of a petition re: the George and Dragon, Ightham, which is scheduled for demolition and rebuilding. The residents of Ightham object to this idea.

A poem in a beautiful copper plate hand, very tiny writing and dated July 31st 1863. This delightful poem penned by one of BH's lady admirers, clearly before he married his first wife and was an eligible bachelor, speaks of his desirability as a husband. No name is appended so there is no clue as to the lady(ies) who might have composed it. Worth reading and so legibly written it poses no problem. BH comments on the verses!

P. 56. Three newspaper clippings: one on the death of Felix Morris, one outlining the Guildhall exhibition of BH's flints and one a poem about Ightham in the dull season. A delightful pencil sketch of three heads, one of which has the name 'W. Hodges'. Trees and houses, or barns form the background.

P. 57. Sunday 19th October 1900. Hailstones. BH caught up on his correspondence after which he took a turn around the hop garden, ?Sill's and Fane Hill. All he found were small fragments (of flint). Notes that most of the ochreous flint is at the bottom.. Spent the evening at home whist Mrs BH went to Mists, allowing Ben the luxury of 'a long quiet evening'.

20th October 1900, A copy of Boyd Dawkin's thoughts on the possibility that some of BH's plateau specimens have persuaded him that they are humanly not naturally formed.

BH notes the laying of gas pipes and he of course cannot help but observe the geology in which they will be placed. Some teeth and bones were found which BH sent to Newton for analysis.

A piece of paper has been stuck over the conclusion of this account on which is written '3 upper ?grinders of a good big ox Bos. May be quite modern'.

Copy of a letter from Sir John Evans:

'... I have had to be away from home every day the last week or I would have acknowledged the receipt of your parcel of flints which I am now returning. They certainly form a good day's harvest and I find them interesting. The pitted specimen is curious. I am not sure whether some of the flakes are not due to the expansion of some particles enclosed in the flint – but probably most of them are due to frost. A little water lying in a fissure expands and enlarges the crack and at

last a bit of flint is destroyed. The ... implement seems as you say to have been fashioned from a flint...

P. 58. The letter from the previous page is continued here:

...already almost brought to the required form by the action of natural causes. The larger facets on the inner curved face seem to have resulted from expansion within the original block of flint. I think that occasionally a small particle of pyrites is the active agent – or a small fossil scale. I wish you many such days. Yours very truly JE’.

A poem below this letter about BH and eoliths in which he is ranked beyond an Emperor as the ‘champion of eos’.

There follows another poem, this time by Edward Harrison championing BH as the discoverer of eoliths entitled the ‘Eolithic Philosophy’. It continues to p. 60 where it concludes.

P. 60. Friday October 26th 1900. Heavy rain. Weather report.

Sunday October 28th 1900. Bright morning which saw BH start out at 11am to Ivy Hatch and on to Raspit Hill, St. Lawrence and Seal Chart, home again at 1pm. He met Miss Day and spent the evening writing and corresponding. Sent some implements to Ted (Edward Harrison).

Original letter from Sir John Evans dated October 26th 1900. This again relates to frost pitted flint specimens, which JE is returning to BH. On the back of this letter is a printed poem on the theme of the good old days.

Programme of the Meeting on 2nd November 1900 of the Geologists Association to be held at UCL. Hazzledine Warren is listed to speak about the pals of the chalk downs of the Isle of Wight.

P. 61. Sunday November 4th 1900. BH Has flu which he attributed to lack of health-giving long walks in the preceding months. Related the tale of old Bingo, his dog, who was howling in pain. BH allowed him indoors. B

Bell visited. Told BH about his impending lecture on ‘The Antiquity of Man’ in Tonbridge Hall. Though BH enjoyed seeing him he admits to finding it hard to cope as he is ‘completely done up’.

9th and 10th November 1900. Performances at the village hall.

P. 62. Extract of a copy of letter from Mr Blackmore re an encounter with Clement Reid, who is said to be ‘convinced’ [of the authenticity of eoliths as artefacts].

7th November 1900. Extract of a piece by Bell on the Natural History Museum. Eoliths left by Prestwich are on show, in what Bell says is a place of honour.

November 10th 1900. Letter from Newton to BH telling him that the specimens show artificial alteration.

P. 63. Sunday November 10th 1900. Weather report in which lightening is mentioned. Notes that Jarvis, a collector is due to see him. BH out for a walk to Saxby's and Fane's wood. Remarks on the white beam trees towards Seal Chart. Spent the evening sketching pit specimens. Mrs H and Mrs Parks off to church.

Newspaper clipping reporting the Huxley memorial lecture. Lord Avebury spoke about Huxley and his work. Not dated.

P.64. A newspaper clipping reporting a meeting of the Kent Archaeological Society. Not dated.

Another clipping on Lord Avebury's lecture on Huxley, not dated nor attributed.

Sunday November 18th 1900. Cold wind and a gale. BH spent some time sketching and describing the Oxford British Association series for Mr Darbishire. Then he turned his attention to copying large tracts from academic works by Newton [not included in this notebook].

Part of another newspaper/journal article with ethnographic evidence from the Canary Islands being used to understand the Druids in Britain.

November 25th. Walked to Seal Chart on what was a fine day then spent to evening sketching and his autobiography.

Monday 26th November 1900. The homecoming of Major Furse ss celebrated with a hearty reception.

P. 65. Several newspaper clippings: one on East Anglian geology: an epitaph to JR Withers: An account of the new work by George Newman, *The Kentish Notebook*.

P. 66. Sunday December 2nd 1900. Recalls part of a letter from Ted, re the weather then goes on to talk about yesterday's miserable weather. Newspaper clipping re: the return of Major Furse and Major Luard, both of whom had been engaged in military activity in different parts of Africa.

P. 67. A watercolour of three aspects of a Palaeolithic stone tool.

Original letter from Mr Blackmore dated 13th November 1900 in which he thanks BH for the series of eoliths, which, he says, ought to convince anyone of the authenticity of early man. Goes on to discuss the differences between eos and pals.

P. 68 Sketch of a palaeolith found at Stonepits, level 420ft OD.

Sunday 9th November 1900. BH spent time in his museum, as it was damp and dull outside. After dinner he ventured out to Buley. Mentions many flowers found still in bloom despite the lateness of the season. Met Mr Bennett at 12 and walked to Fane hill, Yaldham St Clere. Mentions the mounting stone at Yaldham. Describes the

angular gravel near St Clere Lodge. Sketch of mounting block. Home via Four Wents at 4.10 pm. A little rain.

P. 69. Loose newspaper clipping, one in the *Westminster Gazette* on archaeological discoveries in Chinese Turkestan; the other about papers in the *Journal of the Anthropological Institute*. Tylor is mentioned. Not dated but must be from around 1900.

A sketch of three views of cleaver-like stone found on December 1st 1900 by Allchin.

Original letter to BH from Mr Robards dated 12th December 1900. It is about eoliths and associated geology, of which there is a sketch of a section.

Sunday December 16th 1900. BH took a train to Otford, with Elsie on a fine hot day. Beeching had some eoliths and Palaeolithic spalls found on the currant plantation. Notes the find of 'curious stones by Mrs Williams ... found on a hillside...'. Mentions the presence of a worn Sarsen stone about 2 feet in length.

P. 70. Sketch of a stone ? used as a door stop (BH's narrative also sketchy here). Notes the plants seen by a grubbed-up hedge in Heaverham (*Calceolaria officianum*). Made his way home via the hop garden noting a good percentage of ochreous flint and vowing to search this area again. Though he does not specify any particular pal finds he does note the similarity between these flints and the Fane Hill specimen number 33. He does note the presence of some eos and a striated flake.

December 20th 1900, a poem; 'Ben Harrison of Ightham Town'. It is about BH and his search for ancient stone tools in and around Ighthm. Continues to page 71.

P. 71. Poem concludes.

Sunday December 23rd 1900. BH notes 7 degrees of frost. He and Ted take the train to London. Sketch of a broken pal found by Allchin in Patch Grove on December 21st 1900.

P. 72. 5th December 1900. Tuesday, Christmas Day. It appears that despite the day, BH worked till 11 and then to ?.... ?... to Sir Bailiff at whose stable and implement was found whilst making an excavation. [No mention of Xmas celebrations/church etc.]

Boxing day 26/12/1900. BH ready to start by the first train but rain stopped play on this occasion! Started at 10 to Birches and' found 14 rudes' one of which he intended to sketch it was so good. Then on to Oldbury where he gathered some moss for Liz's friend. In the evening he went to the village hall to see '....animated photos and war pictures, very good'.⁹

Sunday December 30th 1900. Dull foggy afternoon following some brilliant days. To Peckham Wood at 8.30. Found a large block of stone 6ft 2 inches by 4ft, which he refers to as '...the large Sarsan' which lay on the shoulder of a hollow pit, sketched.

⁹ This is an interesting entry since BH seldom makes mention of war. He is here of course referring to the Boer War.

P. 73. Narrative relates to the contents of the previous page: 'I cannot but think the pit has been dug close by for a purpose. So large a block would hardly escape the notice of the early inhabitants and possibly by excavating it made it more prominent as a pulpit or rostrum' In the hollow is a small fragment. Took chips from each. As it is only, say 50 paces from Peckham Wood patch, had a scratch and as usual found many old olds, no pals as yet'. BH then went home as the weather deteriorated. Sketch of the sarsen, and its relationship, eastward, to the hole. BH sees the easterly position as an indication of sacred stone. Intends bringing his compass next visit to confirm the position.

Printed poem by FJ Bennett about West Malling church. Dated December 1900.

P. 74. Sketches of nine eoliths from Peckham Wood found in January 1901.

P.75. Sketches of five more eoliths, found by Mr Barry (? De Barri Crawshay) and Major Purves, dated January 3rd 1901.

January 4th 1901. Fine day, spring-like, but 8 degrees of frost recorded overnight. Foggy in London. 8 degrees of frost.

8th January 1901. Tuesday morning Mr Barry visited and informed BH that he recorded 15 degrees of frost. BH queried this but on checking his thermometer found it registered 14 degrees of frost. Mr Maynard said he had recorded 18 degrees of frost.

Two line aphorism from Professor Blackmore 'never hurry, never worry...'

P. 76. Sketch of two stone tools: one a hand axe sent on January 6th 1901 to Sir John Evans for an opinion: the other was also sent to Sir John Evans. BH comments that the latter reminds him of a specimen from North Ash or alternatively, one from Limpsfield.

Eight degrees of frost recorded again. BH out at 9 am to Plaxdale Farm, Parsonage Farm and on to Ash Church and North Ash where he found the pal sketched and sent to JE. He also found a neo. Started for home feeling 'as fresh as a daisy' and wrote a long letter to Sir John Evans. Snow fell as he made his way home.

Monday 7th January 1901. Heavy falls of snow followed by a rapid thaw on Wednesday.

Sunday 13th January 1901. Cold day: BH busy sketching rudess from the high levels all day.

Monday January 14th 1901. BH and Mr Bennett went to Oldbury. The day (Lammas) very fine and sunny.

P. unnumbered. Cartoon of a prehistoric family with a wise, but unrelated saying, above it by Bishop Creighton. A newspaper illustration of the interior of the Eddystone lighthouse.

P.77. Small newspaper clipping of successful LLB candidates, among whom is Edward Harrison.

No day given, just January 1901. Wire from Ted re his LLB which was in the 1st division.

Comment from Professor Church about a mistake in letters for a degree in laws.

Sunday January 22nd 1901. Very fine day, which saw BH take a trip to Basted via Mill pond and then on to the Mists. Wrote to Dr Blackmore in the evening. The death of Queen Victoria noted in bold and underlined.

Tuesday evening at 7.30 a wire was sent stating that Her Majesty had passed away at 6.30. There had been many false rumours during the day but this last information was confirmed. BH notes the weather at the time of death. BH thinks Queen Victoria was a lover of nature.

P. 78. Sunday January 27th 1901. Very fierce gale. BH to Stone Street and St Lawrence and home again by 1.30. Remarks how nice it was to see the leaves blown about. Spent the evening reading the life of Carnegie by Stead. The following day saw another fierce gale.

Original letter from Dr Blackmore dated 23rd January 1901. He thanks BH for the sketches as well as the summary re eoliths and says he has heard that John Evans may be on the point of accepting their authenticity. Long train of thought about the relationship between eoliths and palaeoliths and what they say about the evolution of man.

A peroration by Newman to commemorate Benjamin's name being added to the civil list for a pension to recognise his contribution to archaeology and the study of the antiquity of man:

‘Among the many who now rally round thee, I add a leaflet to the well earned wreath with which our Queen and sages all have crowned thee.

Now shall we earnestly him praise bequeath than thy old friend, the Kentish scribe, who bringeth, fresh from his heart, his loving all. His song for thy acceptance: and while he singeth, Requies he has known thee well and long.

He knows the Kentish verdure laden vallies bedizend with earth's wayside ferns, the flowers: the heaths and woodlands where schoolboy sallies brought us such treasures in these joyous hours.

He knows the hillsides whom the Druids olden led in the worship at the altars high_ whiles mistletoe was cut with sickles golden.

The cromlechs whom their mouldering ashes lie. He too has climbed with the steps unflagging. The rugged time -worn sides of Oldbury Hill -...

P. 79. Continues from previous page:

...has listened with an interest never flagging. To thy sage ... which lives in memory still – Has seen the wondrous and unique collection of implements of flint chipped by a race of men so long ago, the bare reflection of which appals us by, of time the space. How then can I, when other hands are making an amaranth wreath to crown the efforts long – A life times grand endeavour – cease from working.

Old memories with an attempt at song? Accept it then an old friend and neighbour, with loving memories of days of yore – with joy at the result of all thy labour, and hopes of rest when labour's task is o're.' January 1901'.

January 9th 1901. Letter from Sir John Evans to BH:

‘... Many thanks for kindly sending me the first prints of the new century. May you live well into it and still be able to carry on active research! Many thanks also for your good wishes - We are just off to Egypt; across the channel this evening, going on from Marseilles on Thursday. I have not time therefore to enter into eolith questions, beyond saying that the last ten years have not brought much change in my views on that particular subject. I am much obliged for the north Ash pale specimens, which reminds one much of those from Limpsfield. The Neolithic tool is very curious in its colouring, no time for name, but all good wishes. Yours very truly, John Evans’.

P. 80. Saturday February 7th 1901. Frosty morning which did not stop BH going to Buley field where he searched the strips of ploughed land and examined some stones from the stone heaps. He found one implement. He noticed many hard, worn blocks of ironstone and one block of Oldbury stone, which he thought must have travelled far. Three views sketched of a pal.

Church in the afternoon where, BH noted, there was a good congregation but few men present. Old ?... came and left his dog, a greyhound, which he tied up to a seat near the font. The Vicar noticed this and after speaking to the owner the dog was taken outside and tied up there. Later, 1.30 Stanley Casey presented BH with a find.

February 4th 1901. Wintery week with snowfall, which lay for several days before a slow thaw.

P. 81. Sunday February 10th 1901. BH worked all day sketching the Aylesford implements as there was no sun and the roads were slushy from snow melt.

There follows an enigmatic little piece, which ‘types’ people. The first entry, headed ‘Type 17’ describes a woman who rises early, with certain exceptions... and son on. This continues to P. 82. In between, is an original letter from Edward Harrison to his mother, dated 3/2/1 (3rd February 1901). This follows the same ‘types’ format. This time, it is BH he is describing, very amusingly!

P. 82. Another letter from Ted (Edward Harrison) and once again it is on the theme of ‘types’ this time type 5, a female type. This was written when Edward worked in Ipswich and sent from his address of 16 Lower Brook Street. Dated 24th March 1901.

BH recalls receiving a postcard from Ted, dated Saturday February 16th 1901 telling the family that he 'went to London on the 22nd January and took a random shot at LLB honours... Got em!'

BH recalls the arrival of Harmsworth's edition of photographs.

Sunday 17th February 1901. Cold day. BH at home all day. Notes that there was 13 degrees of frost on Friday night.

P. 83. Sunday 17th February to Saturday 23rd, BH noted degrees of frost between 7-13 which, together with the snow, lasted all week. The thaw began on Saturday.

Sunday February 24th 1901. BH went with Mr Knight (Mrs East's lodger) to the reservoir summit, station¹⁰ and chalk out and also spent time sketching.

Sunday March 3rd 1901. Bright day so BH set off for Buley at 10.30 to try and find dome red Oldbury stone for Dr Abbott. Then spent time sketching two neoliths for Mr FJ Bennett. Then, despite a hailstorm, he made for Mr Mists in the evening where he had a nice fireside chat with the Misses Epps.

Original letter from Rupert Jones, dated November 23rd 1897:

'Dear Mr. Harrison, I fully and cordially appreciate your very kind letter of the 22nd reminding me of old times and mutual interest in the Australian fossils and your brothers work at Melbourne.

Accept my sympathy on your melancholy loss and family trouble. Thos Harrison wrote a paper on the geology of Hobart town in the Geological Magazine Vol 11 1865 p.917. The first paper on Melbourne in 1864, The Geologist, vol 11 pp 27-34, the Silurian topics are referred to at p 30 more particularly.

In reply to your enquiry on the subject. I do not know at present anyone anxious to have such fossils. If they be in good condition, and definitely localized by labels, they would be acceptable to nearly any good museum such as the British Museum, Owens Museum¹¹, Glasgow University Museum, Edinburgh Science Museum and Dublin Science Museum. ?... also Lower ?... Cole Museum (read Dr Bonney's) Royal College of Science Museum (Professor Judd's).

The foggy weather really interrupts work. Perhaps soon have fine days in Kent – at all events I hope you have. My daughter was very much obliged to you for the note on Mr Barham – and she thanks you for your courtesy and trouble. Believe me, yours truly, Rupert Jones'.

P. 84. A sentence about Lord Roseberry on the Duke of Bedford – mention of the war.

¹⁰ This would have been on top of the Downs at Terry's Lodge, near Exedown, and is still functioning today

¹¹ What is now known as The Natural History Museum

Apples to Evans and Prestwich (BH must mean Grace Prestwich as JP is no more).

Newspaper articles on the first money, said to have been minted 4000 BC. March 8th 1901. This records a lecture on the topic of money by Lord Avebury at The King's Weigh House, Oxford.

BH describes his and Mrs BH's crib hands.

P. 85. Copy of a letter from Rupert Jones to BH, dated March 7th 1901 in which he comments on a paper by Edward Harrison:

‘... I have read your son's excellent paper on eoliths with much pleasure. I hope that it will be published in some geo book or paper for it will be useful to many.

You will see that I have made a few suggestions, notes which I dare say he will understand. The history of the Wealden range is put so plainly that I hope that Sir J Evans will be able to understand it. You see that I am better, and can write (but not nicely at all). I am not allowed to go out of doors yet. If your son comes through London, I hope that he will call here some day. I shall be very glad to know him, With Kind regards and good wishes, Yours very truly, JR Jones.’

Sunday March 10th 1901. Fine morning, which saw BH start out at 8.40 – found some rudess at Birches where he carefully examined the summit level and gravel pit south of Knockmill. Found some Tertiary stone near Drain where he also found four pieces of ochreous flint bearing work. Called on Mr Sugden and continued the geological explorations in his company. Home at 1.30. Adds a few comments on the day and notes his ‘enlightenment as to the decomposed pebbles which so puzzled me in the dew pond section in 1891’

P. 86. An account of a lecture by FJ Bennett, dated March 12th 1901, the exact title of which is not given but which involves the antiquity of man in Kent. BH is mentioned, in glowing terms, to which there was evidently some objection. The arguments of the objector re: eoliths are described by FJB as ‘jesuitical’.

A newspaper clipping re: a mole attack on a young rabbit. A reference to Stevenson, calumny and lies!

P. 87. Newspaper clipping entitled ‘The Living Races of Mankind’. This is a review of the recently published book of that name by Hutchinson, Gregory and Lydekker by Hutchinson and Co. A poem entitled: ‘To a? Clip of the Stone Age.

Ben Harrison of Ightham Town
Has earned that place a great renown
Beneath rock shelters, Oldbury born
The secret from its stones has torn
And so on learning greatly bent
I called upon the Man of Kent
This Kentish man, the green he
I find instead of selling tea
Was gazing long upon a bone

And then upon a piece of stone
 Spoke words like rhino, pal and eo
 Strange sounding words what could they mean oh?
 Then paused, then mused and wrote a letter
 And told that man "to find a better"
 Next turned him round and noticed me
 "I think you said a pound of tea,
 And then up quick his hand up went
 And round about his ear was bent
 I took the hint and raised the tone
 Said I had come to speak of stone

P. 88. The poem continues from the previous page: ...

Had heard much talk of pal and neo
 But scarce as yet a word of eo
 "A fellow p'haps of great Sir John?
 Was once, but since he won't move on
 No leader he I now consider
 But left behind, like a grass –widder
 Once led the van. Now guards the rear
 And looks on eoliths with fear
 "Then p'haps you wish to follow me"
 This said he smiled with honest glee
 And seeing assent in my glance
 "I welcome then, a new free lance!"
 The straight he climbed to his own den
 Replete with eo, pal and cave men
 And deftly did that grocer-draper
 Illumened take with pen and paper
 Then spoke we long of plateau gravels
 Followed rude man through all his travels
 Spoke of the earliest of the races
 Showed me then rudely flint-chipped traces
 All found by Harrison the draper
 Sir Prestwich's geology paper

A quote from ?Stanley, on the theme of going back in time.

Sunday March 16th 1901. BH spent time sketching and writing. Then he, his wife and Mr Bullen went to Exedown chalk pit. On his return he read the life and letters of Macauley, which he enjoyed. Late afternoon walk to Seven Wents.

Tuesday March 19th 1901. Despite the very cold east wind BH went out for a 'constitutional' via Exedown chalk pit where he found 38 rudes and a part of one pal. Obviously pleased to find a rude bearing a bulb and errailure.

P. 89. Poem from previous two pages concludes:

... And now to Ightham, oft I go

And ?... ?... of pal and eo
Ivy from the present to ?... and
Much that has happened in the past,
Helped greatly by the grocer-draper
So skilful he with pen and paper

By FJ Bennett and dated March 20th 1901’.

Sunday March 24th 1901. Despite the dull day BH and his wife go to St. Clere where they found only ?Marge at home, Potter came to join them and they stayed from 3-4.15. BH spent the evening sketching and reading more of the *Life and Letters of Maccauley*.

26th March 1901. Very cold with 12 degrees of frost overnight. Loose newspaper clipping reporting Mr Gladstone’s farewell. Copy of a letter from E Clodd, dated 26th March 1901:

‘My dear Sir, I have only this week been able to command any leisure from reading Mr Allen’s paper.

I had previously had some chat with Mrs Allen who agrees that you should have a free hand to use any portion of it for ?... into the article which Harrisworth contemplates, or use it for such other purpose as may give prominence to your work.

The whole trend of recent investigations is to make man a bigger antiquity than has yet been conceded, and further, to disperse the theory that there has been any serious break in his occupancy of this part of the globe since his immigration hither. I am so busy a man, having increased demands on my official time, that I do...

P. 90. Letter from previous page continued...

not offer to do anything to help to further your careful aims, but if you think that my looking over pages of Harrisworth’s article will help you, I might manage that...¹²

’ Sunday March 31st 1901. Weather report on mild, then colder weather. Elsie confirmed by the Bishop of Devon. BH took a turn towards Selby’s and found a pal, a rude and one meso in 12 acres. Mr and Mrs Anning visited in the evening. Three views of the pal are sketched.

P. 91. Good Friday, April 5th 1901. Despite the dullness of the day BH started out at 7am to Stanstead, Spark’s Farm and the churchyard then to North Ash where, on the

¹² I think that this letter from Clodd is to someone who has asked him to look at BH’s small article on eoliths, written around this time and sent out to a number of people for their opinion, as noted earlier in this volume to Sir Rupert Jones. The letter has then been sent on to BH who has copied it here. He has clearly got BH’s surname wrong, referring to him as ‘Harrisworth’.

Ash Plain, he found part of a pal. Called on Mr Day to inspect two pals, an ovate and a pointed, both sketched. BH expresses the desire to buy, or perhaps to exchange, Mr Day's specimens. Home at 1.45 having had an excellent outing and not feeling at all tired. Two sketches, one a watercolour, from Roger's? field, South Ash, the other found by Allchin April 6th 1901.

P.92. Outline sketches of implements and two watercolours, one of a broken implement with the original dimensions outlined.

Easter Sunday 7th April 1901. Notes a request by post from Sir John Evans asking to meet BH at Terry's Lodge. On this occasion BH found the pals illustrated above.

Easter Monday, 8th April 1901, which BH spent at home sketching plateau pals. BH, Mrs BH and Elsie walked to Crown Point. Gustly wind and two cyclists 'came to grief' but the local people assisted them.

P. 93. Tuesday April 9th 1901. Mrs BH started for Wales. Weather fine but barometer 'sulking' at 29.

10th April 1901. BH sketching. Comments about the '... wet strange week...'

Sunday April 14th 1901. More comments about the odd weather. BH to Turner's for a chat. Sketching. Read Thieullens's book on flint animals and Rutot's paper, translated with the help of Agnes.¹³ Records a game of cards, crib, between himself and Agnes.

April 15th – 16th 1901. Storms and thunder, which cleared to give perfect weather. BH out at 1.30 and back by 9. Usual examination of the gravels, in which he noted the presence of flint and chert.

P. 94. Original letter from Mr Dodd, dated 20th April 1901. The content is about archaeological matters and the glacial period.

April 22nd 1901. Weather report. Temperature up to 74 degrees Fahrenheit.

Sunday 21st April 1901. More weather reporting. BH took advantage of the good conditions and set out at 9.30 to visit Colonel Underwood, who however was quite sick and lying under an umbrella in the garden. A combination of influenza and heart problems had laid him low. BH stayed to chat and left after refreshment had been taken. Met Colonel Bevington on his journey with whom he walked to Middle wood, chatting all the while. Then on to Chipstead where he was once again refreshed and also met Percy Martin. Continued to Limpsfield where he visited a digging and found some 'old, olds'. He made geological observations whilst there, noting the spread of the gravels and the presence of Tertiary pebbles. He queried the agency of ice in the formations of these gravels. On via the Edenbridge road and returned via the Chart edge. Home by 8.30pm. A most profitable and enjoyable day. Notes that Percy Martin has three ogival specimens with silica infilling, possibly like the Caddington specimens.

¹³ Agnes was a linguist who taught languages

Newspaper clipping of a poem by FJ Bennett, dated April 16th 1901, entitled 'The Falling of the Old Nave'.

P. 95. Copy of a letter from Montgomerie Bell, dated 15th April 1901:

'your letter, very interesting drawings have been long ?... knowledge. I have been very busy. Now I wish to know how you got on with the autobiography. You spoke of Vol 11, which is so far hopeful. I fear however from what you write that you are making it rather polemical, and not on such popular lines as I could desire.

However I want to know what you are doing for this reason. These drawings are fine? work. If your auto is similarly forward and has promise of ever coming to a real book, I would take it to Mr Parry, Mr Balfour's secretary. If they are impressed, they may probably raise your pension to £50, which would be a great help to you.

Believe in your subject; Shake out your facts into artistic and persuasive form:
do not cry down individuals because they are hostile, or careless or ignorant. You quote poetry to me, which I do not much admire: I will give a Roland for your Oliver. I sing with voice unchanged, on evil days though fallen and evil tongues still govern then may sing Urania and fit audience find though poor.

It is a heavenly muse that has led you to find your way with some security amid the darkness of antiquity as the fragmentary traces of the paths of a far removed human life, leading onwards nevertheless to our own. I think the consensus ought to support and strengthen you more than it seems to do. Yours ever truly, AMB'

P. 96. Sunday April 28th 1901. 'Wife in Wales. Elsie returned last night'. BH worked from 7-11 sorting letters, sketching and corresponding.

Wednesday May 1st 1901. A fine day which saw BH out walking, this time to Cop Hall via several other places in the Oldbury locality ending up at the rock shelters. After which, he, Ives and Mr Bennett examined the clayey matrix and decomposed flints just S of Fane Hill.

Saturday May 4th 1901. May Day festival in village hall meadow. Palmer's daughter was the May Queen. Pamphlet of the London Geological Field Class 1901, outlining an excursion organised and conducted by Professor Seeley.

Card of Mr FW Crook of Gravesend.

P. 97. Sunday May 5th 1901. Hot day and BH working on his autobiography till 11am. Walked to see Ives in the hop garden. Notes 'Old World stained flint' together with some chert, the drift at that point noted to have been cut off by Bran Field Coombe. Found a rude. In the evening went to the fissure, Boro' Green and Mr Mist's who was having a tank built (? For a cesspit) which yielded a lot of flint.

Quotes part of a letter from Lord Avebury about some flints, which he attributes to an early part of the Palaeolithic period.

A newspaper/journal clipping about the late Joseph Prestwich – complimentary of course.

Watercolour of a pal, two views, found by Ives 4th May 1901.

P. 98. Sunday May 12th 1901. Met Mr Hodd, Keir Hardie and some others at the station. They walked to Heron Shaw, on to Ives and to the ramparts,¹⁴ the rock shelters, Mount Pleasant, Middle Wood. Then again in the afternoon, BH, Hardie, Mrs BH to Church and Furze Field (which is another name for Heron Shaw. Called in on several people during the course of the walk, one of whom appears to be Professor Holmes. In the evening BH and family went to Saxby's whilst Hardie and some others went to Basted fissure. BH considered that it to have been 'A grand day'.

Sketches of geological sections: the first showing the valley of the Bourne (Shode) at Comp, with levels. The second giving a more detailed view of the geological layers.. BH describes this latter as 'a Mid Kent W – Cr section at Halling/Malling?'

P. 99. An account of the visit of Seton Karr, dated may 15th 1901. BH not well with a chesty cold despite this BH received Mr Seton Karr who arrived from Sevenoaks with his finds. BH acceded to Seton Karr's request to explain to the ladies why the Plateau implements were so much older than the 100ft Thames gravels specimens. BH also showed those assembled some specimens. They discussed the theories of others, including Sir John Evans, who Seton Karr noted accepted some, but not all, BH's specimens. Sketches of three eoliths that had been accepted by C Bailey of Barnes.

P. 100. The account from the previous page continues. Another eolith sketch, this one being recorded as from the 1896 pit dug by BH. More discussion as to what Sir John Evans would accept. Lubbock is mentioned as accepting the sketched implement even though Sir John did not. BH continues to argue his corner, with the altogether well-disposed Seton Karr, whose opinion had inclined more towards eolith acceptance over the years. BH presented Seton Karr with an eolith and asked him if, when following lion tracks in Africa, he had come across this stone, it would have attracted his attention. His first reaction was to say that it would not but, when BH showed him a Palaeolith from Aylesford with similar work, which, though BH does not record his exact response, we are led to believe that it was favourable since BH states, 'Those shown today were all accepted'.

P. 101. The account from the previous page concludes with a photograph of a dead elephant killed in Somaliland. Four pages of the original paper by Seton Karr entitled: 'The Story of my discoveries: a talk with Mr. H. W. Seton Karr, by Raymond Blathwayt'.

P. 102 A *Punch* cartoon about the budget dated 7th April 1901.

P. 103. These pages dominated by two sketches of eoliths, one from a pit on an unspecified site and the other from Aylesford. Both were shown to Mr Seton Karr. Sir

¹⁴ Of the Iron Age Hillfort on Oldbury Hill

John Evans opinion is quoted. These are clearly the two stones referred to on p 100, the first of which is clearly an eolith, the second is probably a palaeolith.

P. 104. Mary S Johnston. Friend of Mr E.J Newton, a member of the Geological Association. Dated May 17th 1901.

Sunday May 19th 1901. Hot day. BH sketching till 11. Met Mr Connor from the *South Eastern Gazette*. He and BH had a nice chat in the museum. Later to Fane Hill and Oldbury.

Copy of a letter from Mr Connor of the *South Eastern Gazette* , dated May 20th 1901:

‘I need hardly say that the agreeable impression which I brought away with me ?... and flourish, so much so indeed that unless I exercise control over them they will probably bring me to Ightham in the future oftener than you will want me.. Your instructions as to the age of man in Britain has set me athirst for more and I shall miss no reasonable opportunity of getting it. Your hospitality has delighted me, and I shall again some day come in search of it, therefore be warned. As to Grant Allen’s paper, I presume you have the original MS in your possession, if so, will you kindly let me have it for referencing purposes. This will save a great deal of trouble in pursuing the matter for the printers. Sometimes (forgive me if you would) your handwriting is perplexing...’.

P.105. 19th May 1901. Weather conditions over the past two weeks described. Strong easterly wind with copious deposits of dust. Many with bronchitis. Mrs John died from pneumonia.

May 26th 1901. Whitsunday. A perfect day which saw BH, Ted, Agnes, Elsie and Mrs BH take a late morning trip to Oldbury where they met the Vennells, walking to Middle Wood rock. BH unable to resist searching at a level of 600ft. BH out again in the evening to Buley gate.

Monday 27th May 1901. Ted and BH walked to Nepicar following the stream. Unable to find any crayfish but saw trout and a snake.

Describes a visit to Trosley¹⁵, noting the fun the ladies had in the trap. Describes the stone type used in Trosley church and notes the presence of Anglo Saxon masonry. BH met Mr Shepherd who gave him a photo of the Coldrum. ‘A perfect summers day’.

P. 106. Copy of part of a letter from Lord Avebury, sent from High Elms and dated May 29th 1901 in which he promises to bear something in mind.

Copy of a letter from Professor Packard thanking BH for two copies of a paper by Rev Bullen which helped him with a lecture he presented. Asks BH to thank the Rev Bullen as he does not have the latters address.

Original letter from Francis Connor of the *South Eastern Gazette* , dated May 30th 1901:

¹⁵ Pronounced as here spelt, actual name of village officially spelt Trottiscliffe

‘Dear Mr. Harrison, herewith I enclose proofs of that part of Grant Allen’s paper which I think is of the most value for the object it is intended to serve. It has been corrected by the printers as far as possible but no doubt they have missed mistakes and I shall be obliged. Anyway, if you will read the proofs through and let me have them back as soon as possible, but not later than Sunday morning – I should like to have them on Saturday if you can manage it. I propose to introduce the paper with a few lines as you suggested in your last letter. It makes interesting reading and it will I think convey enlightenment to many’.

Sunday June 2nd. The weather was ‘fine but threatening’. Mr and Mrs McFarlane visit. Potter came at 4 and they had an ‘exhaustive chat’.

Lenham beds from Geikie’s 1890 book.

P. 107 Original letter from Mr Connor of the *South Eastern Gazette*, dated 20th May 1901. It is re: the book and also mentions how perplexing BH’s handwriting is!

Two pages from: *The Life and Letters of Gilbert White*.

Saturday June 8th 1901. BH conducts a party to Basted, another party is taken to Cob Tree. Hot day, and dry. There were fires that threatened Oldbury but fortunately did not reach that far. All those who had gathered there to fight fires if needed, went home at 12.30.

Sunday June 9th 1901. Very hot. Out at 10 with a friend, to Fish Ponds, Oldbury and Middle Wood rocks and home via the steep scarp. Saw a snake in upper pond, which Cole the keeper threw away, breaking its back, to BH’s consternation and sadness.

P.107. Council for Legal Education:

‘Finish June 5th 1901

Final exam Class 11

Edward R Harrison Middle Templar’

Edward was awarded the Barston Law Scholarship to the tune of £4,718. 4.4

P. 108 Two pals, watercolours; that from Lower 12 acres found by Charley Hohner on June 10th 1901 and sketched dorsal/lateral views. The pal from Coney field was found by James Bassett on June 14th 1901 and is sketched dorsal/ventral and lateral close to the railway line views.

Wednesday June 12th 1901, first rain after the drought.

P. 109. Friday June 14th 1901. Working on Autobiography into which he copied Bevington’s letter. Says that he will ask for Bell’s opinion on his work thus far.

Walked to Wrotham and had a chat with Bank Manager. Mr Bennett visited, and they agreed to meet later at Four Wents. Met Mr Bennett there and they agreed to meet at Four Wents. When they did so Bennett brought along what BH describes as ‘Most persuasive spoil in the way of rudes from Brandon glacial gravels’ [this one is sketched on p.114].

Calendar date stuck on for Monday April 29th with Bible texts.

Sunday June 16th 1901. Sky stunning. BH out to Oldbury with Mrs BH, Wilkins and his wife. Notes that there was plenty of water in the Roman well. BH spent time sketching sets for Perrin's sale

Implement from Milton St, examined by Mr Williams. It had been repaired, BH explained the method by which this was achieved using quick lime and egg white.

P.110. Journal article re: BH: 'A Famous Village Geologist. The Story of his remarkable discoveries' in the *Harmsworth Magazine* by Oswald Marvin. Three photographs of BH, two in his museum and one standing outside his shop.

P. 111. Sunday June 24th 1901. Started work at 7.30 when Dunn whistled to BH and told him that Crimson's beehive was on fire. BH found that the house had been gutted but the taproom and shop had been left untouched and the residents had a very narrow escape.

BH and Mrs BH went to Exedown in the evening looking for orchids but found none.

Saturday June 23rd 1901. Mr Chris Knight and Mr Bullen visited. A party from Baltimore and Polytechnic school visit. Advised to see Mcfarlane's visitors book for numbers.

Thursday June 27th 1901. Rearranged museum and exchanged a chest of draws for a b...?

From *The Times* 20th June 1901, calls to the Bar. Edward called to the Middle Temple.

Mr Crook visited and brought BH a Wealden relief map, which BH had hankered after for many years.

P.112. Cartoon from *Punch* in which Mr ET Reed humorously depicts his recollection of 'his delightful 'prehistoric peeps'.

June 28th 1901. Extract from the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Vol 10 G; re: the Pliocene. Then BH read the life of Gibbon. Extracts from a letter from Mr Darbishire with advice re: the function of rudes.

Recalls that Gibbon was descended from a Kentish family of great antiquity.

P.113. Conclusion of the entry from the previous page.

Poem on stone 'Relics', in which BH gives acerbic mention to Nash Mills¹⁶ and the vain search for the earliest stone tools. A visit to Ightham is suggested where such artefacts are to be found. BH suggests that as he has just added a copy of the

¹⁶ The home of his great adversary in his fight for establishing the human agency of eoliths

Encyclopaedia Britannica to his collection [the implication here is that this came at some cost] visitors on this quest for eoliths must 'pay, pay, pay'.

Sunday June 30th 1901. Comments on the 'immense display of lighting in the night. It begins in the north west but so vivid it seemed all round us...' ¹⁷. This phenomenon was followed by an unusual precipitation of rain that lasted for hours. BH comments 'All nature seems refreshed'.

Whilst the above natural phenomenon was going on BH received a visit by Keir Hardie. BH, and his wife, Mr Hodd and Mr Hardie made for New House Farm and from there to the Horse and Groom.

Copy of extracts of a letter from D Macnamara on Bennett's paper, not dated. M's opinion is that the paper is 'abominable'.

P.114. Bell's comments on Bennett's flints, which are 'marked Gt. Pit Hall, Brandon'. These are, he says, an important discovery, one of which he considered to be a trimmed flake and glacially striated. The second he thought was a Plateau type.

Sunday July 7th 1901. Visited by Mr Westlake and Dr Rake? They started out at 9.30 to the plateau summit where they took Cooper's path across the valley to the waterworks excavations and on to Bouts Hole where they examined the path in the field and Mr Westlake found a body stone. The evening saw them visiting the Basted Fissure and Tomkins house.

Leaflet advertising the SE Union of Scientific Societies meeting held in Haslemere and Hindhead, June 6,7,8th 1901.

Cartoon of a couple shopping in Paris. No publication details.

July 12th 1901. Hot! 85 in the shade. A thunderstorm followed that night. Mr Earle of Tunbridge Wells asked if he and some friends might visit BH with a view to finding some flint implements. BH approved of Earle's keen application to the task of searching. He took them to the museum and introduced the topic of Eolithic man, a first for Earle. In the afternoon they drove to the reservoir and on to Two Chimney's House and Knockmill returning via Crowsland patch.

P. 115. Continues the account from the previous page. They made many finds at Crowslands. On the Birches, Terry's Lodge before returning home. Mr Earle returning to Tunbridge Wells by train.

Diagrams of Shoreham in relation to the Plateau.

Sketch of a pal found at Bay Shaw July 14th 1901 by BH.

Met Percy Martin, his father, ?sister.

An account of a visit to Court Lodge and Ruffets and up to the landway with Mrs BH.

¹⁷ This could have been an unusual display of the Aurora borealis.

P.116. July 14-21st. A hot week! BH obliged to rest between 2 – 3.30. The heat caused everyone to feel ‘...well nigh exhausted’. Temperatures reached 90 degrees Fahrenheit in London.

Copy of part of a letter from Mr J Noble to Dr Falconer dated 26th July 1859. It says ‘I have read a great deal since of your care and beneficence, and all these old-world remains, I am anxious to hear from you the sequel of the story. I talked to Elie de Beaumont about it, who is most obdurately incredulous’.

Sunday 21st July 1901. Hot and sultry BH rested and read Lady Prestwich’s essay. Thunder in the evening. Phillip’s brewery burnt down.

Sunday 28th July 1901. A week of thunderstorms and torrential rain. Small diagram of a rainbow.

P. 117. Mrs East accommodated Mr Rose, a Commons gallery reporter since 1881.

A quote from a science journal ‘What I call science is bringing together remote facts and making them illustrate each other’.

Pencil sketch of a pal found at Maplescombe August 8th 1901. Edward Harrison has referred the reader to p 118.

Newspaper clipping of a review of Mycenae in which the book by Arthur Evans entitled *Mycenaean Tree and Pillar Cult* is referred to. Copy of a letter from Sir Rupert Jones, undated, in which he thanks BH for the photograph and newspaper report by Keir Hardie about BH and his activities.

P. 118. August 4th, Bank Holiday Sunday. Ted, Agnes, BH and friends to Exedown chalk pit.

Bank holiday Monday. BH and family to Eynesford to look at Church and castle where they found evidence of river drift bed, possibly taken from the old castle moat. On to Maplescombe and to the drift at the raspberry spread. Agnes found a pal (that sketched on p 117). Home via Knockmill, Terry’s Lodge and down the hill to Aldham.

At six BH was out again, this time to Hadlow and was driven home a 9pm by Carvill. BH’s objective in making this trip was to verify previous excursions undertaken to establish the distribution of the southern drift. In an experiment he tried to establish the occurrence of the Southern drift on the North Downs at 700ft OD. He considered that evidence from Eynesford castle showed that the keep was erected after the outer walls with the drift sand being procured from the moat, which represented, he concluded, the lower level of the gravel as seen near the Darent. The worn nature of the chert was due to this past activity.

P. 119. Continued from the previous page. BH notes the presence of large blocks of worn Sarsen stone, and possibly conglomerate in the Maplescombe Valley. A note in the margin adjacent to a piece explains how ochreous stones appear to have come down from the Tertiary gravels.

Their approach to Maplescombe was by a path running alongside the hop garden on which there was much white, angular flint which, as on the south side of the valley marked the transport of the rubble drift from the south at 273 bench mark. The terrace to the north was marked by the presence of some deeply stained ochreous flint where, BH noted, there were a large number of 'worked ones' [he means eoliths] 'and one ochreous pale'.

Left at 6pm for Hadlow and seized a good opportunity for ascertaining the distribution of Oldbury stone and the debris from the working of Kentish rag. He notes that the diggers unearthed many blanks from the brickearth there. BH vowed to look at certain aspects of what he observed on this visit, on future occasions.

7th August 1901. An entry about blind Ames who explained to BH that he used polished leather rubber to soften leather gloves. BH notes the high degree of polish on this 'very interesting specimen'.

P. 120. Friday 9th August 1901. Hot and BH in museum from 10 till 11.30 when he took the chaise to Vigo, Fairseat, Stanstead, West Yoke and the Billett. Extolled the prime condition of the spread at West Yoke.

Notes the opening of the water pipe section on the summit [he must be referring to the Terry's Lodge area] where he found many eoliths. Notes the presence of Tertiary sand under which lay 'an interval of chalk'.

Diagram of a drift of a depth of about 2ft [probably at Exedown].

Printed leaflet of a book about Old Sevenoaks in which the seven oaks are detailed.

Sunday 11th August 1901. On a 'remarkably brilliant' day BH went, with Maurice Church, to Fane Hill, St Clere, Birches, Drain field, Knockmill and home via Yaldham at 2. In the evening he went out again, this time with Mr Rose, to Birches and Plaxtol. Sunday August 18th 1901. Hot but this did not stop BH 'putting the garden to rights' and heading out to Seal Chart with Mr and Mrs Rose.

P. 121. More about 'blind Ames' who told BH that his neighbour, Mr Seager, read the papers to him and then went on to say that the world was probably created six thousand million years ago rather than 4000 years BC.¹⁸ BH remarks that this is certainly a 'leap from one extreme to the other'.

Wednesday August 21st 1901. Visited by Bennett and Moreland, who arrived by train. They walked to Rose Wood, Bitchett and St Lawrence. Refreshed at Cotmans Ash where BH sketched. The walk continued [though illegible writing prevents a description of where] with finds of Sarsen stone and conglomerate with the effects of a water spout being noted. South east of this spot they found a large number of Neolithic or Mesolithic stone tools with some Palaeolithic 'spoil' retrieved from the terraces.

¹⁸ This is such a telling remark about the thoughts of many ordinary people of this time, on the topic of creation, geology and human antiquity, informed as they would have been by the myriad newspapers and magazines

They note the presence of chipped Sarsen in the church and, on the farm, a block of conglomerate that was estimated to weigh one and a half tons and measured about 4 feet by three and a half feet. They enjoyed a glass of Golding's beer somewhere on the road to Kingsdown. A perfect sunset rounded off a perfect day.

September 8th 1901. BH describes a gathering of some of the walking clan (Allchin, Mr White of Wateringbury, and himself) and a walk they took after meeting at Four Wents from where they went to Exdown, Terry's Lodge, Birches, Crowslands, Knockmill, Kingsdown, Pit Field on Parsonage Farm, Plaxdale Farm and across the fields to Telegraph hill, Bull and thence home.

P. 122 (not numbered). The account of the walk from previous page continues at the bottom of the page. BH quotes from Holmes's [Oliver Wendell] works who Allchin confessed to knowing well, having stayed with him in Boston in 1886.

Opposite page contains sections of middens found near the Old town of Hastings, below which is another of a beach slope to the sea with 'Roman' written along the sloping horizontal line.

At the top of the page is an account of a visit from Mr Abbott and his wife whom BH met at Boro' Green. They visited the fissure where they met up with Mr Johnson from Chatham, a friend of Mr Kennard. Mr Bennett joined them at 4 and they had 'a council of war on Hawarths paper'.¹⁹

Drawing of a part of a skull found in Hastings by Mr Abbott.

P. 123. A sketch of 'Abbott's skull Hastings' below which the account from the previous two pages continues. More details of Allchin's stay with OW Holmes. Stopped for refreshment at Kingsdown, then on to pit site, Plaxdale Farm and Wrotham Hill where they concluded their walk. Allchin continued home after a tankard at the Bull. They had been 8 hours on foot which left BH '...not in the least tired'. Above this paragraph is a sketch with 'Abbott's work... Hastings' above it. [This must be a superior view of the skull, the other two sketches are both lateral views.]

P.124. A newspaper article reprinted from *The Hastings and St Leonards Weekly Mail and Times*, dated August 17th 1901, in which Lewis Abbott's life and work, both paid and in the study of stone tools is outlined.

Original letter from George Hall, dated September 4th 1901, thanking BH for his kindness and extolling his virtues.

P. 125. Journal article entitled 'A Holiday Visit to Ightham' not dated.

P. 126. A lovely piece of doggerel about a lion on the loose in Southend!

¹⁹ I think he may mean the 1901 paper by Hayward on the mechanics of flint knapping that ruled eoliths out as artefacts

Cuttings of Venus de Milo, as she is today and as an American artist, Mr Paloma imagined she might originally have been. It is entitled: 'Venus Nursing' and shows her as Mr Paloma imagined she was bearing the infant Dionysius (or Bacchus).

P. 127. George Newman's letter from Balmoral thanking him for his book of poems, entitled *Other Lyrics*. Kipling's poem 'Bobs' and one entitled 'She noddit to me', a poem about the Queen.

P. unnumbered. An article about hill forts, which the South African War (2nd Boer War) brought to the writer's attention.

P. 128. Cartoon about the poverty in which elderly people live.

Another about 'Our Antediluvian Ancestors'.

A parody on Tennyson's 'Charge of the Light Brigade'.

P. 129. Portrait of Thomas Carlyle under which is a printed article about science by Carlyle.

P. 130. A rather lovely portrait of the second Mrs Benjamin Harrison pictured in her drawing room.

A poem by Cicily Fox Smith, from Manchester.

Clipping about a book of holiday rambles by EE Gallienne.

Another antediluvian ancestor's cartoon and a small clipping about commercial precocity in a 13 year old boy.

This concludes Volume 20 of the Benjamin Harrison archive held at the Maidstone Museum.

Angela Muthana 26th June 2015.