

Maidstone Museum

Benjamin Harrison Archive

Volume 24

[This notebook covers the years 1907/8 and contains an eclectic mix of handwritten notes, sketches and clippings from journals and newspapers.]

Between the fly-leaf and the first page there are loose recent copies of articles from old newspapers, one of which is the *Kent Messenger*, dated May 31st 1907 whilst the other, copied on the same page is dated June 5th 1907. There is also a copy of the details of the memorial service for Sir Joseph Prestwich. Also included here are three loose and two attached clippings, both are from the 'Nature Notes' column by JBG about lichens and manna in the wilderness, the other, is about robins and wrens. The three loose clippings concern, the novel *Through the Eye of the Needle*, a report on the Royal Society of Literature and a comment on FJ Bennett's book about the memorials of old Kent.

P.1. More clippings: the first an account entitled: 'The Antiquity of Man' by Professor Peuck, an American scientist. The date of human remains found in a Swiss cave, said to be of pre-palaeolithic humans, is thought to date to 100,000 years before present. Interestingly, the biblical account of creation from Genesis, chapter 1, verse 1 is quoted, followed by comment that attempts to square the circle and reconcile these latest discoveries with the biblical account of human genesis. Another clipping from 'Leaves From a Local Naturalists Note Book' repeated from the previous page and dated June 5th 1907.

P.2. Thursday 6th June 1907. Here BH records that he is reading *Puck of Pook's Hill* at 4.30 (in the morning) till 6 when he arose in order to prepare for the party on Saturday and he wanted to prepare for it. Bennett seems to be the author of 'Puck of Baal's Hill' the following poem:

When you have finished off old Dogon and long for other work
To keep you far from mischief – not be indolent like Turk
I have a plan to send you, and pay your fee as well
It is to outdo Kipling – the book is sure to sell
Just ponder on a list first and marshal all your facts
And put it down in black and white – the very best of acts
Let Cowley act as draughtsman and Filkins give firm aid
Your future then is certain, in fact it's ready made

You have Saxon, Celt and Roman, druidical as well
Abbott's nuns and Friars – are Wyatt's tale to tell
So ponder these suggestions I trusting you'll not say nay
The public's keen to buy it and pay, pay pay
Druidical, Celtic, Roman, Sill... Saxon and natural.

P.3. Ted's letter of the 9th June in which EH writes that he did not approve of BH's sending Sir John Evans the poem [probably that from the previous page]. BH clearly sent EH a copy for his seal of approval before sending it to Sir John. He returned it to BH saying 'However, as I was writing home on the subject I could but fancy a smile of approval was on my masters portrait... Wait a wee Ben and let them say the verses after the congress, and by way of a cordial adult':

Through Evans' lack of magnanimity
It deeply pained myself – and you
Were in the Boucher court vicinity
But in the end he'll surely rue
And though no ?... he did not find it
And take no pains the truth to seek
Just work away and never heed it
Submit and turn the other cheek
And bear in mind the refrain to the old song
After the Congress is over
After Col... 's work's done
You'll have less chaff – more clover
Less shade and more of sun'

P.4. On June 12th 1907, BH visited Comp House¹ On the way to the house by an old garden BH's interest was taken by a remarkable archway, and an old wall of particular note, which he has sketched. An incident, which clearly pleased BH, is recounted. It involved a young lady of about 15 whom BH likened to Una in *Puck of Pook's Hill*. He does not describe the incident, and it seems likely that he simply enjoyed meeting the girl who bore a resemblance to a literary character.

Another poem follows called 'Birthday Letter'. It is in homage to EH whose birthday was on June 13th:

Their dress it was pretty and comely
Arranged in a suitable plan
And certainly rustic and pleasing
"Zuiter the thing" said old primitive man

Befitting a gardener of Eden
Ere Eve on the down grade she ran
Making paradise there of the garden
Reminding old primitive man

Of the time when Madam Eve and old Adam
Quite far from society's ken
Were content with fig leaves for their clothing

¹ A listed manor house in St Mary's Platt, about five miles to the east of Ightham and now a nursery specializing in Salvias, for which it holds the national collection. Roman remains have been found on and around this site and it is speculated that 'Comp' is a derivation of 'Camp' suggesting that there was once a Roman settlement there

“And enough too” said primitive man

But then as you know our old forebears
Enjoyed not the primitive plan
So rebelled being lured by the serpent
“What a fall” said old primitive man
P.5. For primitive man ere the glacials
He dressed like the river drift clay
Content to tattoo his proportions
No clothing wore primitive man

But in much later days mother Grundy
She tabooed and vetted his plan
“So what with long skirt and tight trousers
“We suffer” says primitive man

Later on in the reign of Kind Edward
Both sexes adopted the plan
Of wearing short skirts and cool knickers
“How charming” said primitive man

With the conclusion of the poem BH moves on to discuss numerous track ways in Comp, which he attributed to the development of through ways past the many springs at the junction of the Sandgate and the Hythe beds. He says these are marked on a map near Yew Tree cottage. He says he added a new verse whilst waiting for for V... to carryout the plan to visit the farm’s old Cromlech, ‘the work of Druidical man’.

Mr Maxwell remarked that there were a pair [of cromlech’s] on the top of the hill only discovered since c...’s brickwork. BH and Mr Maxwell chatted at length about this and it is said that a pond near the summit held water and to the south of this there were large blocks of stone ‘like sides of wood hill, but more irregular’. Mr P... cut a trench with pick and spade in order to reveal anything of interest there. He offered to drive over there with BH, which they did and BH reports finding many flakes in the man-made heaps and rabbit burrows on the rim of the hilltop, which he says is very extensive. He compares it to the Kits Coty monument that would have been highly visible in the landscape. Continues to the following page.

P.6. BH notes that the larger blocks of stone, from the Folkestone beds lying nearby, may also have been utilised. BH called on [name illegible] about the Park farm diverted route, who promised to bring up the issue with the council. BH says he enjoyed this trip on such a fine day. Adds that he met Mr Stewart, the owner of Kits Coty House with whom he had an interesting chat. Mrs Goldsworthy and her daughter called and expressed an interest in his visit.

Saturday 15th June. BH arranged for a visit to the Coldrum with Mr Knockin, but rain prevented play so BH kept himself ‘from mischief’ by writing. A visit to FJ Bennett’s is mentioned and a walk involving ‘all points’ is referred to. This prompts another poem. It is about nature and her works.

I could fancy you just looking down

On my friend who's a good little man
Whilst he in his turn must look up
To survey Herculean man

When dawn nature completed her work
And finished according to plan
She had broken the mould, and exclaimed
I've succeeded in making my man

A mention of Mr John Schwartz and his brother at 11 who brought along an eolith from Rickman's [pit in Swanscombe] that had been found by Sir Hugh Bev... Bart.

P.7. Thursday June 20th 1907, which BH describes as 'very enjoyable'. The Rev Thompson visited at 4, bringing six ladies along with him who, after inspecting BH's stones, visited the rock shelters where, it seems, they had a delightful picnic, involving the consumption of tea, brewed using a spirit lamp, bread and butter and cake whilst BH gave a lecture about eoliths and their meaning. Everyone was very pleased with the activities. All the ladies wanted a copy of BH's lecture on Eolithic Philosophy, which of course, was not in written form. Rev Thompson suggested that BH get it printed and offered to finance this. One of the ladies was 'a most enthusiastic geologist' and had been studying chalk zones with Dr R... on the Isle of Wight. The weather is described as 'delightfully fine'. One of the ladies, who hailed from Leeds concluded (for some reason that is not quite clear) that BH had been there. This prompted BH to relate an anecdote about the Yorkshire Dales and a school inspector who asked for the names of a few Yorkshire dales. He was given six, one of which was 'Wharfdale'. The schoolmaster, being somewhat puzzled asked again and the reply was that the most popular dale in Yorkshire was 'bottled ale'.

P.8. An original letter from the Rev Thompson of Kippington House, Sevenoaks in which he informs BH of his intention of visiting Ightham with a party of friends who would very much like to visit the Rock Shelters. [This must refer to the visit described on the previous page.]

A poem in an old *Cornhill* magazine entitled 'The White Cat', by Thackeray, dated April 1874, which caught BH's attention with the opening lines, which describe some days as 'profitless' whilst others are seen as 'treasures'. The article describes a day in which 'Golden chaff, crimson tints...' summon the idea of autumnal perfection and days upon which BH would have walked his patch with enormous pleasure, no doubt the reason for the inclusion here.

P.9. Saturday June 22nd 1907 saw BH awaiting the arrival of Mr Wilson of Halling as well as Kennard who enquires after the 'Geological world's doings'. The answer of course is couched in poetry which includes mention of primitive man, his status as a 'hermit'. The poem occupies the whole of this page.

So send me a line at your leisure
It will indeed be a capital plan
For letters from you are a pleasure
And pleasing to primitive man

For primitive man is a hermit
And only his small world to search
But he longs for a wider horizon
And verily, thou art the man
To tell of the doings of geos
And good work of the stone-bearing clay
And he in his turn tells of eos
To satisfy primitive man

So seen in a letter instanter
And give all the news that you can
Youth makes my brain go at a canter
And makes me a happy old man

Tis pleasant to hear of your doings
And if – when I'm hand-tried by pen
It keeps down ... bad tempered brewings
And makes a new man of old Ben

I picture you reading this message
As all the vile writing you scan
And you say – as your conscience it pricks you
“I'll write to old primitive man”.

The next few lines are about a Kent V Hampshire cricket match in which Kent scored 596 runs against Hants, a fact BH celebrates with another, short, poem that concludes on P.10.

P.10. Dated June 26th 1907, BH includes another poem in which the ‘pilgrimage of life’ is blessed and a wish expressed for all that is good to accompany the pilgrim. This concludes on P.11. Dated June 26th 1907:

In your pilgrimage of life
May you have no care or strife
Many blessings never curses
And full of joy and peace
A brimming cup of ease
And in your shoes no peas.

‘I was much impressed on seeing a dear little lamb on Kemsley’s lawn ... Works since apparently passing away – on Wednesday I noted with pleasure it was recovered and skipping and gambolling and following Miss Maud Kemsley.’

Mary had a little lamb
Its coat was white as snow
Sometimes with Maud he takes a walk
The next day goes with Flo

Today he in the Busty fell
And rescued was by May

She in a wash-tub placed the lamb
And washed away the clay

But still his coat erstwhile so white
Became a sober hue
So May she to the wash house went
And stained with Reckitt's blue...

P.11. The poem continues...

The people stared when it was seen
Looking so gay and gaudy
So then t'was painted vivid green
And walked abroad with Maudy

When Flo saw the lamb she found
"The colours base alack!"
So to improve the lamb she tried
With coat of Brunswick black

The blue and green and black also
Were in succession tried
No wonder by those painting them
Our darling lamb it died

Not died I mean in common phrase
When mortals pass away
DYED is what I mean
By Maud and Flo and May'

The above poem is dated by BH as June 27th 1906, but Edward Harrison queries the year suggesting it was 1907.

The following entry is dated July 1st 1907. And records the presence of painters and whitewashers, paperhangers there for the following 2 – 3 weeks. BH regrets the fact that he has to put his books, papers and maps away, rendering them inaccessible. There follows a little ditty about the inconvenience of all this decorating, under which BH has written the name of Worthington G. Smith:

Oh what a mess, what a rumpus, what a riot with painters and
whitewashers in kitchen, parlour, hall. 'Tis very plain in your demeanour
there's little peace or quiet in. Be of good cheer, they'll soon get clear and
leave you one and all.

Another three lines that seem unrelated to the above:

Perhaps you were right in dissembling your love
But why? tell me why you so strenuously try
To kick the poor eos down stairs.

Below this is written ‘A characteristic letter in reply caused me to soldier on more’
It is a reply to WGS’s letter about eoliths and eolithic man in the journal *Man* and
their correspondence on matters of human evolution:

P.12

In the mildest of moods I your letters
Broke open to eagerly scan
And say what a “good un” old South is
In fact quite a model old man

He wrote such an ... letter
And promises copy of *Man*
Its twenty nine years since he came here
To ... primitive man

So after these years nine and thirty
He’s not in accord with my plans
And tries to make yours truly shirty
And accuses of using a d...ed

His part a first-strike near the kettle
A timely and sensible plan
Enabling the chairperson of eos
To reinstate poor plateau man

So here’s to my Pal, oh must worthy
Though he doth the eoliths ban
His paper it does not disturb me
On truth relies primitive man

For truth as you know it gets better
If now ever by G ... van
Whilst ... A does from a pin prick
A fact says primitive man’

Dated July 15th 1907

July 17th 1907 BH spent time arranging and docketing his letters and pamphlets when
he found a photograph taken in June which he decided to send on to Worthington
Smith to prove that he is not the man WGS pictures².

BH read some ‘very odd lines sent to me of some verses that tackle my attributing
some forty years. Here I start at the beautiful gate waiting and watching for one’.
Being so to speak, obsessed by these lines I jingled a bit but cannot give the original
writing’

² In Maidstone, and other museums, are stones with illustrations of eolithic man,
drawn by WGS. This is what BH alludes to here

P.13. The poem BH mentioned on the previous page is copied here:

If ever I travel to Ightham again
To see old Ben's spurious stones
And after my tramp in the heat from the train
Arrive, much fatigued at his door
I find out our ... and nipping my face
As he by his garden gate sees
And I scan his old face, but no anger can trace
As he stands calmly waiting for me

A grasp of his hand as he welcomes me down
A chop and a nice cup of tea
Refreshed, invigorated, I view his old stones
Which he has arranged all for me
"Why Ben" I declare, tis a truth such to give
Arranged in such orderly plan
Ev'n I must confess, they do me impress
And I wish I'd not written to *Man*

For Dr Blackmore, he got me a stone
Which I closely looked at through a lens
And, as I expected, some chips I detected
But I don't see the same on old Ben
For here from Plateaux he plainly doth show
In sequence, an excellent plan
Good proof he doth give, and makes dry bones live
Oh I wish I'd not written to *Man*.

There follows another six-line verse, probably copied from a popular journal, about the vexatiousness of partys.

A copy of Prof L....'s suggestion about some sort of trade involving a sum of £50,000. From the *Daily Mail*. July 17th... Followed by a short poem about the *Daily Snail* with its slimy trail. Presumably an adverse comment about the article quoted from the *Mail*.

P.14. July 18th. BH 'my goal' all day dealing with the accumulation of letters, including some of WG Smith's dating back to 1878.

Tis nigh on thirty years old friend
Since you and I began
To conspire and ventilate
Our views on ancient man
And after all my patient work
You do the eos ban

I need not bid nice ... friend
Our friendship has been true
In all the ... and woe of life

No change that friendship knew
Barring the trivial episode
In c...part of man

P.15. The poem from the previous page continues...

You taught me first in seventy eight
To search when views vary
And kindly sent me spoil from Kent (county)
And now my search began
But Dr E he ruled that this
On bulbs must trust for many

But soon I left the shepherds field
And oe'r the plateau ran
In spite of his hints collecting flints
Bespeaking older man
And after all my work ...
In just where I began.

A short entry about the effects of time, which, it is noted, prevents whistling owing to poor dentition! He mentions 'singing poems' and says 'I may fiddle it' [he played the violin]. Another few lines of verse.

Some tunes you play are very sweet
And tender it is true
But that rhyme playing over and over
Is quite unworthy of you
Tis not a whit or better than
The discords of primitive man.

An entry about the Wrotham Naps, a playing field, said to be among the best in Kent. Following this is a small clipping from the *Maidstone Gazette* about cricket to be played on the Naps in July 1815. Designed to show how long the Naps had been in use.³

P.16. Newspaper clippings about ants and earthworms, in two columns of 'Nature Notes'. Another newspaper clipping detailing a visit to the eastern Medway megaliths by the Maidstone Natural History Society led by Mr. FG Bennett.

P.17. A newspaper clipping from the 'Nature Notes' column. This time the subject is clouds.

July 22nd 1907. July 22nd 1907. BH says he had arranged '...a vast number of exhibits on my table for the Sidcup Society...' . There follows yet another poem.

³ The Wrotham Naps were an area of land in public use from time immemorial, and in BH's time a place where games such as cricket were regularly played

Grin and bear is my favourite mode
Submit with a smile is my next
But when nature does come in at [my] window
I swear and don't stick to my text

For this life is a bundle of burdens
Some massive and some common place
Noteritis is surely the latest
The effects it is easy to trace

Oe'r the whole of my well-placed exhibits
Ranged out in a line by the score
There's enough .. for bed of an arrow
Not to mention what lies on the floor

It flies in the window by bushels
Like some vacuum carpet machine
It rested on the ledges and table
A some man has seen

P.18. July 22nd 1907. Poem continues from previous page:

This world is a world of surprises
In fact 'tis a marvellous riddle
But I'm happy in having possession
Of stones and my garden and fiddle.

A two liner: 'To Bull re Spurrel's acceptance' and 'Some spark who do not know – others know but speak it'.

July 23rd 1907. Copy of a letter from Mr FJ Bennett. 'A good notice has appeared in *Literary World* with a long quotation from Larkby on the eoliths. And per contra another in *The Reliquary* with a contemptuous slap on them as "mere backscratchers".

In writing Worthington I said this: Worthington's hit us a short curve, to wit, see his paper in *Man*, whilst Romilly's slap is a black one but then he's a black-sided man. He just gives a slap at the Bull saying Hercules⁴ sits on the fence, like CB of whom we're so proud of (X) used three times in the very same sense'.

(X) Three letters to Temple, Larkby and –

This world is a wonderful riddle
And composed of queer folk as we see
But with garden my stones and my fiddle
I don't care a bit for the three.

⁴ Possibly Charles Hercules Read of the Royal Anthropological Institute

The eolithophobes noted below as JE (John Evans) B (by whom he probably means Boyd Dawkins) and HH (Henry Howarth) are the 'three' mentioned in the above verse, for whom he cares not one 'bit'.

BH records that he had a card from Miss ?Corke of Sevenoaks, newly acquainted and who says how nice it was to hear BH's name mentioned by their President, Sylvanus Thompson during his Presidential Address, as well as by G Whitaker during his address to the meeting. Only one person, Mr Rudling⁵, sides with BD.

P.19. Continues from the previous page: ...and Sir John Evans. Howarth is said to have been regarded as a 'crank' by Romilly Allen.

In red ink BH comments on the late Romilly Allen, which remarks are sadly illegible but it could be a comment on his death in London in July 1907

Following this, and initialled by Edward Harrison, is an adverse comment about Worthington Smith. 'I don't think much of Worthington Smith's *Man* theory'. [Though separated from the main letter I think this comment is part of Miss Corke's communication with BH].

July 23rd 1907 A quote taken from *The Tribune*. This is entitled 'The rediscovered Relic' and is about relics and a 'pesky grandchild' who appears to delight BH as he defines 'pesky' in red ink.

Another poem follows:

Oh! What is not so large and round
Dem Granpapa? She cries
That Peterkin the same and ...
Up yonder in the skies?
And granpapa said "Drat the child"
But turning to the window smiled

"Bless me" a good soul remarked
Struck of a golden harp
While round his feet the children barked
And frisked like April ...
"Bless me" if that don't take the bun!
Why Gott in Himmel, it's the sun!

"But what is not"? young Peter said
I do not understand
While Wilhelmina tapped her band
And sneered behind her hand
"A thing" the old man made reply
That used to come before July.

⁵ Rudling was a Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute

P.20. Continues:

“I mind me when I went to plough
Or turned the leg at mid-day
I’ve seen a ... how much is out
Before you mites were born”
And will it last for long? Said R
“Ah! That I cannot tell” said he

BH writes ‘After having copied the letter now on my mind as in parting from the ..., party on Saturday, I chided the messy ones by saying a greater mind would soon appear. Mr Taylor in writing to thank me for help ... he could not stay and... . We had a long cycle ride home and did not ... until... . The man? which you promised us made it’s appearance’⁶

A poem that probably relates to the above entry:

It happened on last Saturday
Some bikists came to stay
A while and view Oldbury Camp
And left at close of day
And biking homewards asked full soon
Why, where, oh where is old Ben’s moon?

He told us in the village street
As we shook hands with him
We sure would have a special treat
I would make our learnings look dim
Three quarters moon would soon appear
I only wish that he were here

For telling us of bright moonlights
To clear us on or way
Alas! As prophet he’s not right
We fail to see a ray
His cheery words they make us hope
Then through dark lanes we should not grope.

P.21. An argument between BH and a neighbour over ground on which certain plants were ‘wilfully ruined’. The language is legalistic. The respondent, to whom BH must have written with his complaint replied: 1 “I did not touch anything in your garden. 2 I pulled up things planted in the middle of my Lily of the valley bed. 3 Keep to your own garden. 4. Leave my small bit alone.”

BH writes:

⁶ BH’s writing is particularly difficult to decipher at this point in the narrative so this entry makes little sense

The plot in question was situated by a private right of way to a certain useful but nameless underground construction and, in order to keep this in proper and suitable condition it was necessary to construct a removable barricade and to trim and ?... the adjoining hedge to give free ingress and egress when required. It was therefore viewed and careful measurements taken. On the south western side the plot is bounded by an edging consisting of blocks of ?... stone. On the N by a rockery – in a measure this boundary is not clearly defined as the rapid growth of *Vinca major* frequently overlaps. – but it is in evidence that this said overgrowth from time to time ... must be most carefully trimmed to prevent any damage to the plot of *Convallaria majalis* - otherwise known as Lily of the valley. On the east the boundary is defined and consists of a ... partition protecting and enclosing strong, vigorous plants of *Sambucus niger* or common elder – robust growth of *Acer pseudo platanus* – otherwise greater maple or sycamore. Here occurs the aforesaid gap or interval for the purpose herein before alluded to. On the southern side of gap a strong protective bulwark is provided by a ?...

P.22. Continues from the previous page:

... of *Crateageus oxyacantha* commonly known by the name of Quick-set hedge, a Hawthorn, Whitethorn, May bush. The name quick-set-hedge I think is of Saxon origins and is thus given in the Century dictionary. A living plant set to grow, particularly for a hedge, hawthorn planted for a hedge.⁷

There follows an entry on a botanical hedge-related theme that includes mention of a hedge, described as ‘quickset’ with the attribution Addison’s *Tale of Manatus*. More about plants and a sketch of the garden and planting about which this entry concerns itself. A red X marks the spot over which there has been contention.

P.23. More about the garden and boundary problems and mention of a resolution to the dispute. BH discusses plants [at one time in definite contention with archaeology and geology as a major interest in his life, and never quite relinquished].

Once again BH is overcome with poetic inclinations, this time in relation to the garden. The theme is the poor man’s gardener. It will not be transcribed but the mention of many plants confirms his love, and knowledge of, botany.

P.24. Poem from previous page concludes. The following entry, still on the theme of gardens, is headed ‘Finale’ and starts with an uprooting and refers to Mr Adolphus

⁷ These few sentences are a good example of BH’s tendency to engage in stream-of-consciousness writing, which often seems a little disjointed when read, though when spoken sounds natural. Though this interior monologue style of writing was alive and well in BH’s day, it is less in imitation than inclination that he often writes thus

Pinto Leito of South Kensington who was currently staying at Highclere for confirmation of which BH says '(see diary)'⁸.

BH records a visit from Mr William E Roberts of the ... physics laboratory at South Kensington and the two chatted from 3 till 6.45. Mr ?Leito also arrived bringing with him the biography of Sir Joseph Prestwich that he had borrowed as well as a copy of *Nineteenth Century*. He was on his way back to London by bike. BH introduced the two gentlemen.

A three-line entry about a friend of Professor Thompson, with the lengthy pseudonym of 'Supracrepidarius'. Professor Thompson in his Presidential address in 1906 to the South East Union [of Scientific Societies], 'indulging in a little fancy', remarked that he had a friend, his name he would not for worlds reveal, however for convenience sake, he referred to him as friend Supracrepidarius, who, in the course of a pilgrimage of some fifty years, had amassed many pleasing prejudices. They did not ordinarily assert themselves by any disfigurement of his brow, nor did they ?... his temper. But at times when the mood fits, he let them peep out from their hiding place just to assure his friends and himself that they are still alive. This friend was continually plying him with questions to which he could find no answers. Last week he suddenly landed him with a query. Where do London ?cabmen get their hats?...

P.25. Continued from the previous page:

He had no thought of the matter before. But the hat of the typical London cabman is of a fawn and texture but he did not remember where seen in any hatters shop. But they must come from somewhere. As his friend Supracrepidarius would never himself answer the question he prepared... One could not help admiring him, most people did not know how many things they could be ignorant of.

The entry below this, probably part of Worthington Smith's article in *Man*, concerning nature's production of stone flakes and chips: 'if a flake or chip can be proved to be due to nature's forces and fit, why may not the ten thousand trims of ten thousand of Harrisonian misfits be also due to nature?'

Sunday July 28th 197. This entry, headed JSJ:

The Dryopithecus ridding itself of parasites – what more natural? Witness the Apes and monkeys always scratching. Witness also those ivory hand –shaped back scratches used by the Chinese. But what will Mrs Grundy say? How interesting it is to reflect on the highly advantageous adage of "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours" was put into practice by our hairy ... to their eternal benefit. How human must have been the sight of Dryopithecus scratching his neighbour's back. The origin of diplomacy is to be found in the

⁸ More confirmation, if such were needed, that the official volumes were made up of material from another source, or sources, and which was copied, I can't honestly say in fair-hand, at a much later date into the volumes that now constitute BH's archive held in Maidstone Museum.

annihilation of fleas. The tergivisation⁹ of a Tallyrand, the
machination of a Metternich, usher themselves originally into the
circumspection of a flea...

P.26. Continued from the previous page:

... Esau and Jacob seems to me to be a crude and orientally simple
way of trying to give some idea of the origins of man and the
difference between him and the ape – like branches. The author of it
probably had some confused intentions, writing of Darwinism but
knowing nothing of natural history.

Besides a newspaper clipping entitled ‘A rediscovered Relic’, a parody of a poem by
Robert Southey initialled ‘E.V.’ is an entry about a visit, made many years prior to
this entry: ‘In 1853 I visited Sir John’s (Evans) house at Nash Mills in company with
Mr Walter Monckton. We visited the further mills by walking by (the) canal. I was
much amused by the gambols of two dogs – a collie and a grey Dandie Dinmont
terrier - they dived into the water and chased the swans and kept one highly
amused....’. There follows (the inevitable) poem about this incident:

It was at close of summer’s day
John Evans sat at ease
In shade of ... house and lawn
The sun shone through the trees
His collie dog, and terrier grey
Likewise they took their ease
But soon they fidget about
Owing perhaps to fleas

His daughter Joan, a winsome lass
Was sitting by his side
But soon she spied the restless dogs
And came to pa and cried
“Oh dear papa, look at those dogs
They ought to be at ease
Instead of lying quiet by
Are bent on catching fleas

And first they scratched with might and main
Upon their own bare backs
But soon they tried another dodge
And initially made tracks
By starting on a coopt’ scheme
When A said to his brother¹⁰
“let’s do it more effectively
By scratching one another”

⁹ To repeatedly change one’s opinions or to turn renegade

¹⁰ ‘A’ is Arthur Evans, son of Sir John Evans and the archaeologist who discovered
the Minoan civilization of Crete

P.27.

And so was started them and me
(The scheme had long been hatching
In old A's brain) and then furthermore
Was started mutual scratching
"If you will scratch mine why I'll scratch yours
With stockbrokers or ...ing
If mine you wish to know why go
To broken Ben and ask him

Not axe him in a town house
With air of execution
But axe him quickly old friend
For he's a revelation
Of things we've ... like
And though here gospel true
Old notions vain, his drift in ...
And pierced here through and through

'Tis interesting" Johnny said
To his younger daughter Joan
This find it was Sir Joseph's
Would it had been mine own
For had it been I do believe
I should upon my ..
Had been elected PRS
And thus attained my goal

For friend JP more prescient he
Steered boldly by Ben's stuff
And brought before the geo S
But I cried "Hold! Enough
These stones so vile are not my style
And are not as you see
For any purpose useful
Except to kill a flea

Which might then 'fes as having heard
Of Dryopithecus
My lovely tools much prized by fools
But not esteemed by us
The Savants three, BD and me
A Howarth too as well
But by the acumen of Ben
They do a true tale tell

P.28

So here's to Ben, the rare old Ben
No Ben of Shakespeare's time
But Ightham Ben, the simple Ben
Who sends to you this rhyme
Who spite of gibes, and ... and jeers
Stuck fast like Bendick's bur
In work devoted but not promoted
Whilst I AM rated Sir.

Below this BH has written 'see overleaf for additional verse by FJB'.

For the sake of continuity it is reproduced here:

The battles been as you know keen
And long continued too
But things are moving in fact inspiring
Thus helping me and you
For 'tis clear to me friend FJB
The tide is turning fast
In eolithic favour - he
Laughs longest who laughs last

Dated July 30th 1907.

BH writes:

When your're calmly cogitating, in your mind old John you're stating
And your dinner it consists of – no ducks only pens
And your name is set a flying, by the rhymes I am bestowing
Just write a sentence on it and trust of apes of...
The subjects worth attention and lice you need not mention
Or my own parasites confine yourself to fleas
I will solve a serious question and your fauna will firmly rest on
In working close to scientists the use of stones like them.

The next entry is a quotation from 'At Large' by AC Benson who says he is not trying to minimise faith in God and the unseen. He considers that 'ecclesiastical traditions' have come between simple faith and an appreciation of God. He admits the Bible is such a mixture of legend and other heroic content as to make it difficult at times to get to grips with as a person of faith.

P.29. A wonderful, and lovingly crafted portrait in black ink and wash, of Eolithic man, leaning against a rock and using a body stone to clean his left arm, and presumably remove any resident fleas! Beside him are several eoliths, of the body stone type. He is notably hairy. Following this is an entry entitled: 'Prestwich and Hairy Man, 1895.'

After Prestwich published his article on the "Greater Antiquity of Man" In the *Nineteenth Century* of April 1895, he became much more outspoken and was much interested in what I related to him as told me

by Messrs Oliver and Anning . He added after I had told him try to get all the information you can on the subject. Alas, he died in a few months. Mr. Oliver, chemist of Town Malling said a Master Blacksmith of Malling came to him stating that somehow he had infected with parasites – Oliver treated him so far all was going well. A fortnight after the man called in on Sunday just as he was waiting for his wife to go to church. He wished to see him in private, so the wife was sent on to Church and he would follow...

P.30. The entry from the previous page continues:

... However the man said “I am very hairy Sir and now I find them in force on my chest” He revealed and Oliver found him as hairy as a ?... He got his razor and after lathering him shaved off all his hair – and the man got free.

On the following Sunday Mr. Anning, chemist of Maidstone, came to see me, and as he was formerly a chemist in India I was prompt to relate and asked as to his experience. He replied. “I was now called on in such a case, but some men are very hairy – even those you would not expect to be. I was once in attendance at a meeting (Masonic or otherwise) and two new members were to be instituted. Some ceremony had to be gone through such as exposing the chest one contained nits pa...? The first was an army Doctor and to look at his face you would not have thought he would be hairy, but on uncovering he was a mass of wiry thick hair. The next was a captain and with a strong moustache, but his wrist was as free from hair as a woman’s. But from what I saw of the doctors chest I can well imagine what a desperate one it would be should he be infected – as the hair is so closely matted –much like a dogs coat”.

I as prompted to quote to Prestwich from appendix to “Man and the Glacial Period”. What could have been the purpose for which these little implements were employed? No better answer has been suggested than the ludicrous one that they were used by the anthropopithecus to rid himself of the minnies with which he was infected. P.369. His reply “why ludicrous?”

P.31. The entry from the previous page continues:

I have had many chats on the subject with Doctors since and may light on the evidence in going through my note books.

A photograph by De’Ath and Dunk of Maidstone, of the Kent Cricket team.

A newspaper review by Edward Thomas of a book about Ightham, one of the contributors to which was BH. The commentary is not complimentary though he says the chapters on geology and archaeology show that these topics have been studied ‘with peculiar care’.

Below this is a pencil sketch of the Chinese back-scratcher mentioned a few pages back. Below this is a list of countries where such a device might be used, copied from the work of B Bruce Foote.

P.32. An entry headed 'Stoic. Report by Mr. Bell.' Below this there is a line or two mentioning Dr Burns 'Dio phrase and fable'.¹¹ Epictetus said to be the founder of the new school [of Stoicism].

This reference prompted BH to quote a poem by Bather about stoicism, which includes a reference to eoliths. [BH sees himself as a stoic, bearing the rejection of eoliths by Sir John Evans and others, as a stoic would have done].

The ancient stoics on their perch
With fine dispute maintained the church
Beat all their brains in fights and study
To prove that virtue is a body
I is an animal
More good will start polemics bowl

The ... stoic from his den
Produces the eos, marks of men
Not only so –but they produce
The shapely pals – and may succeed
By constant search and patient toil
To prove coeval with the spil
In which they live in summit heights (770)
Against the views of Britwell's knights.

P.33. Starts with the dictionary meaning (of stoic) as: 'A person not easily excited, one who exhibits calm fortitude'. Another entry, mostly illegible that starts:

Flint hearted stoics, you whose ... eyes
Contains a wrinkle, and whose souls despise
To follow nature's too affected fashion'

Flint-hearted Stoic whose constant gaze
I saw your shapely pals, arranged in trays
In Britwell's halls – containing eos rare
Arranged in old Ben's den with precious care.

Another entry about 'Hairy Man', by W.G. Smith:

When I was a young man I was a champion swimmer and a man who
swam with me was covered all over with red hair like a gorilla. I was a
kind of friend and this man's name was Airy, N London. When my
sons were young one of them spoke to me of a young man named Airy
of N. London and he said the boy and the father were hairy all over.

¹¹ A Greek-speaking Stoic philosopher born into slavery in Hieropolis, Phrygia. AD 55-135

There were reasons for believing that the name Airy originated from the character. Many years ago one name of hairy was in the dictionary but I have dropped my subject. I once saw a vagrant woman scolding...

P.34. Continued from the previous page:

...a child in the street, his wrists were exposed, they were slightly hairy – below the wrists was a thick mass of hair, almost like a long beard of a man. No doubt such cases are known.

Another poem reveals BH's thoughts about this subject of stoicism:

Mr Bell preaches to me of stoics
To be calm and true fortitude show
But with dust on the brain I do fancy
I would make a calm stoic let go

And swear like a trooper at ...
Stirring up all the dust as they pass
Racing on at a pace must ...
And cause loud as bray of an ass

It's all very well to praise p...
The toad went to ... he knows
The burden of warfare protected
The struggles, the strife, and the blows

The fish as you know was a keen one
The next long content as...
Fierce was man at G ...
And I never free from the threes

Casually callous behaviour of Evans
The ... and the gibes of old Ben
But I am treating the case like a stoic
Best expressed by gay friend

Later
The raid has ...
And to my tent (lodge) I carefully go
Not like Achilles home to sulk
But range my eos row by row

Invented types as .. chance
To light on in my sorting out
Scrapers long, pointed and depressed
And these showing ... smart.

P.35:

These last so named by good ...
By Windle like to Cupids bow
The buttock and the back side scrapers
Will be arranged in lengthy row

For though two days I have been working
And handled possibly a ton
Of flints long stored away in old house
Classification must be done

And from my stones must dawn the ...
Make sure my grounds and strengthen case
That these old flints are eos truly
And plainly prove a prior race.

‘A storm in a teacup’ is the title of the next entry that concerns Mr Ward, who was found to have insulted Mrs A within the Geological Association. The word used to describe the insult is ‘objectionable’.

BH wished to have a quiet chat with Mr Kemsley on his return from the Cape. He and others assembled in the bar of the George [and Dragon]. This entry continues to the following page.

P.36. A description of a ‘jolly and jovial geologist’ who is not named. Another poem follows which is about this geologist. The writing is so illegible as to render this entry un-reproducible. It is dated August 1907.

Another poem about a ‘Charming young lady of Wye...’. Virtually illegible apart from a reference to the lady concerned’s shyness and ‘Liptons is best’ and the fact that the women of Wye will try no other (tea I guess).

P.37. A reference to Sir John (Evans) to whom BH records writing to suggest he should commission an artist to paint a hungry couple ‘partaking of the cup that cheers but not inebriates’.

A newspaper clipping about a song, in which men await their unlikely promotion. Another entry about a poem dated September 15th 1907.

Another rhyming entry about Liptons, that seems to have been the topic of the moment. It may have been a song since there is a chorus, recorded by BH. The relevance of this entry is largely lost on today’s readers but it clearly struck a chord with BH.

P.38. An invitation from Mrs Goldsworthy to the rehearsal of a children’s concert on September 14th. This seems to have been to do with the Primrose League.¹² Nursery

¹² The Primrose League was founded in 1883, two years after the death of Disraeli, whose favourite flower was the primrose. Queen Victoria sent a bunch of primroses from Osborne House to his funeral. The League, founded to promote Conservative principles, was so named in honour of Disraeli, a staunch and respected Conservative

rhymes such as, 'Mary, Mary, quite contrary', 'Hush-a-by Baby', 'Little Jack Horner', 'Jack and Jill' and 'Where are you going to my Pretty Maid' among others were to be recited in addition to the performance of a Japanese play.

A sketch in crayon, of a beech tree, signed in pencil by BH. He notes that he had tea under this tree.

P.39. Two more sketches, this time in pencil of landscape and trees, one of which may be of the Shode just before it curves and enters the Basted gorge.

P.40. Newspaper clippings, the first entitled 'The Geological Picnic; In search of "Pals" and "Eos" in a Kentish Drift'. This is a description of a group of elderly gentlemen (average age 62) who spent the whole day looking for stone tools, and finding many described as eoliths, about which the writer, Mr J. Langley Levy, expressed some scepticism but which the majority accepted as artefacts without demur.

Another small newspaper clipping about a diabolo set belonging to Fred W. Crothall who, with a companion, visited Mr Anquetil to show him this game. Mr Anquetil surprised them by showing them his French grandmother's diabolo, which Mr Crothall thought could be 150 years old.

P.41. Dated October 16th 1907, there follows a poem, probably a BH original, about the changing nature of Ightham. It starts:

One by one we lose our meadows
One by one our prized treasures fall
All such losses surely grieve us
Would we could preserve them all

Oh Ightham in the days of old
The paddock was a pleasing scene
In autumn showing tints of gold
In spring bather in tender green
But stead of lime trees graceful, sharp
And oak resplendent with its hues
No longer will its foliage drape
Alas such treasures we should lose
The mighty dollar tempted ...
This verdant paradise to fall
And lo our Eden goes to harry
Alas, that this tale should be told
Of mind ... and graceful trees
Beloved by Ightham man
We pray Miss Bill be tender to us
And spare our chestnut while you can

The man who works two blades of grass
To grow where only one before
A benefactor is and freely

A true passion he...

Or

The man who works two blades to grow
When only one blade grew before
A benefactor is, and surely
All true persons we adore.

P.42. Dated October 17th 1907, a revised version of the poem on the previous page.

Another entry, also dated October 17th, records a cold east wind and rain with the barometer recording very low pressure. Another poem about the weather follows.

P.43. The poem continues. In the margin, BH records the last word of each line. His writing deteriorates throughout this poem.

P.44. The entry here is about the general love of walking, especially in the evening twilight. Dated November 1907 it is in poetic form.

An entry for December 2nd 1907 recording the death of Ightham's oldest inhabitant, Shad Webb. He was said to be 89.

BH also notes the death of Mrs Bates aged 89, the blind basketmaker's widow on December 3rd 1907.

P.45. A poem which speaks his strong wish for the return of his books, freely lent to all and sundry. Dated December 4th 1907:

Oh that my books were all returned
Which I have lent
Princes of Thule and Darwin's Life
And Lambarde's NA's in Kent
Sir Joseph's works on plateau flints
And many more likewise
So pardon give for Sunday hints
These books I highly prize

And in the future when you sit
At the at the conscience-pricking ring
About the things you left undone
MY words may then prove true
There's lots you'll have to answer for
The query will be then
Did you return the much-prized books
Lent to you by old Ben

And I felt I should have to answer
The questions it put to me
And to face the answer and questions

I.. in eternity.

An entry about the 66th birthday, on December 10th of one of BH's neighbours Mr Mist. A poem records BH's good wishes on this day of celebration.

A jovial old neighbour names Mist
Stands first on my natal day list
So on December ten
It comes to old Ben
That he must not forget old friend Mist

So here's to your good health old boy
May your future be tinted with joy
Sans trouble and care
Good trade everywhere
Sterling metal without an alloy

May you live for a score years or more
At the end may you get an encore
Good health to enjoy it
And no care today
And lots of grandchildren in store

May your good wife be still with you then
When your cap your four score and ten
May your dear old love nee'r cease
As the years ...
Good wishes from Ernie and Ben.

P.46. The poem, or an extension to it, continues:

This wholesome advice that is given
I hope you will take in good part
They may say that your tongue moves too glibly
Never mind if your sound at the heart
And when in the future your questioned
If you sought good or evil to do
Reply like a veteran sturdy
Did it never seem unto you

That on earth 'twas my earnest endeavour
To assist very lame dog I tried
Befriending each widow and orphan
Like a mason so tried, you may bet
I've striven to be a good neighbour
In fact a Samaritan true
Though some ... my failing ...
Did it never occur unto you

That when I'm called up at last muster

And the sergeant he names Billy Mist
 I hope to come out as a fighter
 And prove I'm not on the black list
 But ... and worthy a post there
 Where all selected are true
 If not first on the list – yet commended
 May such things seem unto you

Your good wife is cheering the missus
 By a cosy fire side with a glow
 And I'm penning this in the kitchen
 At the best it is really so-so
 But then old friend Mist I'm in earnest
 In giving advice oh so free
 Take it kindly old man, don't get shirty
 For so it seems unto me.

P.48. [No P.47] Another poem, this one about books BH has loaned. It is the same as the poem reproduced on pp. 22-23.

There follows a list of the volumes he lent. They are:

1. Prehistoric Times
2. The Gravel Beneath us Prestwich
3. Savages Avebury
4. Several of Dickens works
5. One Vol of Shakespeare
6. Controverted Questions
7. Papers geological
8. Papers anthropological
9. My Garden Wild R...?
10. Ascent of Man Drummond
11. Life of Huxley Clodd
12. Jesus of Nazareth Clodd
13. Childhood of Religion Clodd
14. Childhood of the World Clodd
15. Vice versa
16. Nonsense book Lear
17. Geological Essays Geikie
18. Primeval Man WG Smith
19. Ships that Pass in the Night
20. Adam Bede Eliot
21. Modern Science/Modern thought Laing
22. Problems of the Future Laing
23. Human Origins Laing
24. Physiography Huxley
25. Memoirs: Wealden Survey Topley
26. Bibliotheca Cantiana
27. Kentish Archaeology Payne
28. Caesar's Commentaries Bell

29. Ordnance maps Ightham District and Kent.

P.49. A poem that mixes German and English spelling about a little barn near a fence in Plaxtol. An outline sketch, presumably of the 'little barn'.

On December 14th 1907, BH's birthday [he was 70] FJ Bennett wrote to him:

To a Three Score and Ten Ben
Strained eos and pals from old beds of clay
Resumed by Ben – rise and say
Many Happy Returns to our hero today
For long did we slumber, forsaken, ?....
flints only, were we, mere pieces of stone
But Ben he knew better and made us his own
We eos so rude, so misshapen: some ?...
were found by the well and the stream B
But the wise only call this a nightmare a dream
All Kent do we rise to you Ben
So stalwart and starry, the strongest of men
All hail do we rise to our 70 year Ben
All haul to our hero of threescore and ten
So stalwart, so starry, the strongest of men
Still active, can climb the 700 foot hill.
And where there's a way can furnish the will.
Arrived at the top the ?... hill scree
Compare wasted with unwasted that is if he can
But we hope he will dig at W Yoke or N Ash
And got by the spade both honour and cash
And all opposition he will duly smash.

P.50. A newspaper clipping about the sale of Kits Coty and surrounding land. Mr George Clinch gives an opinion as to the age, and possible uses to which the monument was put in antiquity.

The entry above this refers to BH's missing books, some of which were listed on the previous page.

A short poem about BH:

Supply link that is missing from eolith chain
This link to be found at West Yoke or Ash Plain
Ben's story and Ightham's not told in a book
But this you must try then long will you look
'Tis a story of man of the hills and the plains
This story of Ightham and also of Ben
Who is here well and hearty though hid for score and ten.

Mention of a book by Rice Adams in which BH is mentioned.

A poem:

A... (?) Ancient Britons on the
Invasion of Julius Caesar which
Takes the ground you take up and
Summons the division you know
Made in the enemies camp
The author does not count himself ...

Dated January 8th 1908

Drawing of a ploughshare with the name 'ALLCORN' emblazoned across it.
Another, connected sketch of a bag, or container, with 'MANGER WASTE' written
across it.

Beneath this reference is made to L Leach and RA Chandler On taking the GA
[Geological Association?] to Knockmill and Maplescombe on June 15th (1908?). A
single line mentioning Sir John Evans and WW who were taken by BH to Boxman on
April 25th 1907.

P.51. Pencil sketch of a tankard under which is written 'Puzzle Jug Mr J Day
Oldbury'. Under this is written 'Metal lid and on top of handle no mark on bottom'

There follows a sketch of a section taken from a paper by Rutot, not dated. It is of the
river valley of Gabry. The geology is detailed and the level at which eoliths were
found similarly noted.

P.52. Reference in the *Graphic* No 2 to Sir John Evans geologist and archaeologist,
whose 84th birthday was celebrated on November 17th 1907.

There follows a 'Specimen of Sir John's humerus'.

Some years ago the reception from foregoing at the Royal Botanic
Gardens Kew, of letters really intended for the Royal Observatory,
was not infrequent. The writer involved a misdirection of a revised
postal address. Sir John, acquainted with the ?..., and realising the
situation, penned the following lines to the Keeper of the Kew
Observatory: Sir; - I ask a thousand pardons if, when I go to Kew and
seek to find the gardens I find myself with your, A foreigner'. [This
does not make much sense but is transcribed exactly as written.]

P.53. 'This was sent to me by Mr James of the Royal Society February 3rd 1908. I
could but go through my old notebooks and quote for him some lines from *Nature*
1878.'

After the discussion on the *Corvus megacorus*, (which Mr Williams had found to
prove had been killed off by the cold of the upper boulder clay period) on which
Professor Leith Adams FRS questioned, the president Dr Evans on the following
lines'.

Some comfort to the stag that's ?...

To think that in long distant years
He will be dug up to be admired
And have his life discussed by sages

Yet had he known the foreign puzzle
How far from truth each sage would be
Methinks he'd rouse his corvine muzzle
And see the future Section C

Small comfort to the man who works
And strives to prove a greater age
His still opposing e... works
Who at his eos simply rage

How he foresaw in decade eighty
How such would simply injured be
By such a beast the letters weighty
FRS, GS and CB

He's better for here stuck to trading
And heaped a pile as ... do
And kept from A... water wading
But still he has no cause to rue

The time so spent in searching gravel
For relics old bespeaking Man
And by his efforts to unravel
And thus establish plateau man.

This is and has been his sole ...

BH writes a few words: 'Turk a Tartar, Tartar an intractable person'

P.54. Another poem, this one said to be Sir John's lines though it quite clearly is by BH and how badly he feels he has been dealt with by Sir John Evans and the establishment in his work with eoliths.

I ask a thousand pardons
This man's unkind to me
Prevented me from sending
Good wishes unto thee

But better late than never
I hold as golden rule
And so I herewith send on
Some notes from Shoreham school

A young and learned pupil
Has been at work for me
By putting things in order

As all can plainly see

So like an aged huntsman
I've earned a welcome rest
Young hands may hunt the quarry
I've done my level best

For yours much over twenty
By searching far and wide
I've heaped up stones in plenty
While I look up with pride

And though to some unworthy
"New stones from brook and stream"
Yet if they prove precocious
My work is not in vain

But with the time I've wasted
In searching plain and gravel
The ... age of mankind
This trying to unravel

Revised first verse:

Small comfort to the name of Kent
Who stirs to prove a greater age
And finds his precious time misspent
He calmly sits, and shows no rage.

P.55. Copy of a letter from Mr Bell dated 21st March 1908:

... I had your note about the Victoria History of Kent lately: and at the time could throw no light upon it. In the last week I have been appealed to for information on the stone period of Oxfordshire by the gentleman who has been interested in the prehistoric department for the Oxfordshire history. He tells me that the editors of the series will not admit the word eolith, in any discussion of any such types into the series. Sir John Evans is, as you know one of these editors. The scheme is their own and they have financed it so they have a right to do this. They do not in my opinion exercise a right judgment in their discussion....

On Whitsunday, June 6th (or 7th according to Edward Harrison's amendment) Mr Robarts visited and BH and he walked to pottery and sketched the ware they found there. They also took some photographs despite the light being bad. In Kemsley's trap they went on to ?... hillfort where they ascended the Golden Nob. BH mentioned some flakes washed up in the tracks by the recent rain. They continued on via Miss Pike's, where they had an interesting chat and saw her south-sea pottery and viewed her masks. They continued on to Vigo where they took refreshment following which they examined some sections in the foundations of the new house and on to the west.

From Vigo to Fairseat where BH found some eoliths in a small area of ground. Mr Robarts was very impressed. They crossed a field but found nothing ochreous until they reached a patch near the road...

P.56. Continues from the previous page. Their search continued and BH found more specimens for Robarts to show to Whitaker. Robarts was impressed with the geological formations, and the red clay with flints that topped the hills. They had a long chat with Rod Clarke and his daughter. Writing poor here but the interest turns to an old chapel which may have stood upon the site of the current church. The associated yew tree was estimated to have been at least a thousand years old.

Then on towards a bungalow and across a field to Plaxdale, en route to which BH found more eoliths. From there they continued to Kingsdown. Many notes were taken on this journey, over parts of which they timed themselves. BH and his companion took tea at the Porto Bello (Inn) and then were given, a Neolithic celt found at Knockmill by young James, a sketch of which is superimposed over the narrative. This implement he gave to Mr Robarts.

Notes the view from the front of Oaklands and mentions Brandshatch where he found another eolith. The last line is difficult to read and BH, rather surprisingly in the light of what appears to have been an interesting day, concludes with '...very tiring depressing'. An outline in pencil of what appears to be a Neolithic axe head.

P.57. A continuation of the entry from the previous page. Reference to a bird (a wild bird not a hen) and the discovery of two eggs. The ground is noted as being covered with pebbles and the eggs looking like pebbles proved difficult for Mr Robarts to spot. BH describes this as an excellent example of mimicry.

At this spot they found some worked flints and then went on to the pit at the 770 level (? Terry's Lodge pit). Ash pit noted as being at a level of 720, making a difference of 20 feet between it and the Crowslands pit. Mentions *Cephalanthura*¹³ found under a beech tree. They arrived home at 8.45 after what sounds like a major trip around BH's world.

On Sunday 9th June 1908, Robarts went to Addington (site of two Neolithic monuments). They had a long chat in the evening.

Whit Monday turned out to be a fine day when 34 members of the Paddington Literary Society visited at 10.30. BH met them at Dark Hill. He took them to the hillfort in the afternoon. There they met up with the Catford Society, some 20 strong. Church inspection followed. BH reflects on the immense numbers of people visiting on such a fine day.

P.58. Newspaper clippings, one about rent arrears another about some proposed changes to St Peter's Church Ightham, a letter from BH and part of a letter from the Polehampton brothers. (One of whom had been a Rector of the church) about the replacement of the glass in the north window of the church.

¹³ The so-called Button brush plant

Original letter from E Ray Lankester, address 29 Thurloe Place South Kensington. It is a thank you note from the Ightham visitors, whom BH conducted around the place on Whit Sunday. In it ERL notes the recent death of Sir John Evans saying 'It is about time'. He of course mentions eoliths and their undoubted human agency.

An original document from the Polehampton brothers about the changes to the North Chancel window of St Peter's church. They withdraw from the scheme but state that the money they had already donated should go towards a much-needed safe for the storage of ancient registers and plate. Sketch of an eolith, partly superimposed across the letter.

P.59. A newspaper obituary notice for the late Sir John Evans, who died on 31st May 1908.

Repeat of the Whit Sunday entry and also the visit of the Paddington Literary Society visit.

Whit Monday noted as being 'fine'.

On Tuesday 9th June 1908 BH went with Ted (Edward Harrison) to Pascalls Bank where they noted the absence of ochreous flint in the drift..

P.60. Met Professor Schwarz at 11 [presumably whilst they were out walking as detailed on the previous page]. Professor Schwarz had just returned from visits to Brussels where he met Rutot. He recounted a meeting between Sir John Evans and Rutot when JE asked to see the eoliths in Rutot's museum, though he only had ten minutes in which to view them. Rutot (rather dismissively) replied: 'They want careful examination and as you can only spare ten minutes I can only say "good afternoon".' This response led to nine visits. [The inference here is that JE made nine further visits in order to fully examine Rutot's eoliths].

There follows an account of Rutot's ideas about eoliths, some of which he maintained were worked till quite recently, these he calls 'Flanuliains'. BH notes that this type seems to match some specimens from Ash as well as some from the surface of the Shode gravel. Rutot, apparently experimented a good deal, chipping and scraping flint into eolith-like forms, one of which, the hollow scraper type, is illustrated to show three stages of manufacture.

P.61. BH has the honesty to say that these results do not tally with his own experiments. [He was a prolific flint knapper, producing both eolith and palaeolith forms, as shown in the collection of his, discarded by Sir Edward Harrison when he left 'Old Stones' in his dotage, and now in the possession of Mr David Baldock, who very kindly showed me this material.] BH resolved to repeat his knapping experiments again in the light of the difference between his and Rutot's results.

A sketch of a flint knife [? one produced by Rutot or BH]. Rutot is described by Schwarz as a quiet, conscientious man determined to work everything thoroughly. Professor Schwarz was interested in BH's 'Mezzoliths?', which BH describes as an unstained eolith, of which he had a case full and on which he (Schwarz) intended to experiment.

Part of a printed account of an excursion to Knockmill and Cotman's Ash on June 12th 1908, showing the geology.

More of Professor Schwarz and his experiments. It is noted that the British Museum is quite behind in every way. [Presumably this reflects the fact that Sir John Evans had much influence at this establishment and that eoliths were, as a consequence, disregarded.] Schwarz is noted as being on the council engaged in considering who might succeed Professor Boyd Dawkins [another eolithophobe].

On the 11th and 12th June 1908 BH arranged for structural alterations to the Lodge where everything was 'not in good order'. [Exactly where the Lodge was is not made clear.]

13th June 1908, a visit of the Geological Association to Kemsing, Maplescombe and Knockmill. Shilling and BH started out at 1pm

P.62. Continued from the previous page. Mr. Newton was among the group but had to meet up with Percy Martin at Sevenoaks so BH and he had no opportunity to speak. Mr Leach gave a short address before they proceeded to St Clere Lodge and yet again when they reached Birches. BH, walking as he was with Mr Johnson, upon reaching Two Chimney House, suggested that they turn aside at that point to examine the ochreous gravel encountered there. Mr Johnson went off to put this idea to the President who, in company with Professor Wells, professor Watts and others whose names are illegible, returned and shook BH's hand.

From there they walked together on to Cotman's Ash with BH presumably talking them through the geology. BH quoted Topley when they reached the point at Drain East.

Having reached Cotman's Ash, BH and Grist walked home. [This is really quite a lengthy walk which testifies to BH's stamina.]

The following day, Sunday, BH and Grist went to Furze Field for an enjoyable saunter. BH met Seton Karr at 7 who had with him some Egyptian flints. BH gave him some eoliths.

BH has glued a pressed flower to this page.

P.63. Tuesday 16th June 1908 dawned wet but BH went to Miss Kemsley's wedding at 2. He comments on how nice the church looked.

BH spent the week sketching. On Saturday June 20th he set off for Vigo at 2.45. He examined a flint pebble found by Miss P Law which looked quite new being neither ochreous nor worked. He then pressed on to Sir Philip Waterloo's new road leading to his lodge where he noted only white flint drift, no ochreous flint being evident. He paced a strip of land about 2 rods wide, which ran parallel from the lodge house to Vigo. Ochreous flint hit on by the Toll House. From there to Vigo to sketch a Jacobean bureau. Mentions an eight-day Grand Father clock costing £6. An oak chest, with a secret compartment, of which there is a sketch, is described.

P.64. The entry from the previous page concludes with a short mention of the homeward journey and a weather note to the effect that the wind was steady and the night cold.

A name and address of a Rochester resident. Dated 28th June 1908.

Sunday June 29th 1908, dawned hot and sunny. BH had visitors, Mr and Mrs Pegler, Dr and Mrs. Curwen and brother Lewis Biggs and Mr Halford (of Rochester). Lunch was taken at The George and Dragon after which they went to Miss Pike's who took them to the Vigo Inspectors House. From there they went on to Fairseat and Platt Farm (where they made some finds) and Kingsdown where they took tea at the Porto Bello. Pegler and BH continued on to Oaklands and Knockmill. They returned to the station at 8.40 leaving Miss Pike at the Pilgrim's Way. BH notes how enjoyable the day was, notes the presence of 'bikists' at Fairseat and that he found several more eoliths.

P.65. This page is devoted to the Cawne window in St. Peter's Church, Ightham, which, it was proposed, be altered. A copy of a letter from Arthur E Coombe, who wrote from The Athenaeum and who was opposed to the proposal to insert rectangular glass into the window, replacing the then diamond-shaped glass. BH, in a letter to a newspaper, supported the proposal since he recalled that, in his youth, the window had rectangular glass, later changed to diamond-shaped insertions.

On the 4th July 1908, Ightham cricket team played the Rectory team. The failing light stopped play.

On Monday July 6th Harling was awarded £23 damages at the County Court. A London gent caused the damage.

P.67. [BH has missed out p.66.] The entry from the previous page continues. Pink's case was referred to and, at the request of the prosecuting lawyer, the matter adjourned till September.

Tuesday July 7th Mr Maurice Church and BH went out to Knockmill at 9.15. They found some split pebbles that BH has illustrated in ink and wash.

On Thursday July 9th 1908, Professor and Mrs Church, along with Lord Russell, who was also a passenger, were involved in a motor accident. They escaped unhurt. The motor belonged to the resident of Preston Hall.

P.68. A newspaper clipping detailing the Wrotham Manorial Claims.

Sunday July 12th was very wet. The previous day was fine and BH, Dr Ling and Mrs Church went to Knockmill.

Copy of Miss Morant's notes, July 1908. These include notes on Warehorne Church taken from William Lightfoot's work in *Archaeologia* Volume 4.

P.69. More extracts, this time from the work of Thomas Philpot 1776, about Ightham Church, and the Thomas Cawne window. This was copied by Miss Morant in 1863, which notes were lent to BH by the Rev Winniffrith.

BH records the occasion of Tunbridge Wells Cricket week, most of which, in the grand tradition of cricket, was plagued by rain. The following entry is about an ancient fireplace in Mr Outram's, the leather cutter's house in Sevenoaks.

P.70. Tuesday July 21st 1908. BH went to Ash where he encountered a notable Collie dog in Goldsworthy's field. BH is very impressed by the manner in which the dog follows the shepherd's every command. Went via Parsonage Farm and met Reeves who told him Pink had sunk a pit on the Chapel Croft site where a seam of gravel was revealed. The bailiff told BH about Pink's interest in eoliths. The cost of this sinking and two days work for one man was 6 shillings. BH informed that Pink was keen to sink more pits. BH's examination of the spoil revealed some eoliths, which he has sketched. He enjoyed the day, arriving home at 3.45.

Unnumbered page. Sketches of palaeoliths and eoliths from various places.

P.71. Sketches of eoliths.

P.72. Sketches of eoliths.

P.73. Sketches of eoliths, though one may actually be an artefact.

A cricket match held on Wednesday July 22nd in which Ightham played Basted.

On Thursday Professor MacCurdy and Dr Peabody went to Parsonage Farm (presumably with BH). Short entry regarding the Fairseat eoliths. Copy of a letter to BH from Edward Pink about the digging of more pits:

Dear Mr Harrison,
I reply to your request to be allowed to dig holes in...

P.74. Continued from the previous page:

... Chapel Cliff Field in furtherance of your experiments, to be allowed to open the holes now will be an expensive business owing to the crops at present, also your people who do the digging would probably not be very careful about the damage they might do round about. I should prefer for you to dig the pits in the late autumn or as soon as the crops (mangold swedes) are removed and suggest you should delay your research till then. Yours truly, Edward Pink.

Entry detailing a walk, to Crooked Billett (past Ash). Then to Knockmill with a party of four and then to the train at 7.23 which Dr. Peabody caught.

Friday 24th July 1908, To Milton St. via Gravesend road. Stopped for lunch in a good spot with commanding views of the Thames. Sketch of the river with two bouys. They stopped at Grays in Thurrock and then went on to the pit at Thurrock where BH found a fine flake and a small implement. Then to Milton Street the long way around,

where some of the workmen fetched some of their finds, which included a 'a very fine ovate' for which the workman asked a very high price. BH records that he bought 10 implements for 4 shillings. They then went on to Mr Newtons pit. He missed the train home by five minutes and had to walk home from Otford, which he did in an hour and ten minutes. He got his whisky and water flask replenished at the Bull on his way home.

P.75. Note of a Congress in Paris. Also mentions McCurdy asking if Mr Balfour had been there. Also mentions a marathon race held on the same day despite the temperature being 80 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade. Mr Percy went Cuxton in company with Mr Godson and Mr Dibley.

Sunday 26th July 1908, still hot, 77 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade and BH records that the marathon was won by an Italian, who was subsequently disqualified owing to being given assistance.

Sketches of the 'Milton Street Spoil'.

P.76. More sketches which includes an eolith to 'act as a foil' to the Palaeoliths from Milton Street.

P.77. More sketches, all eoliths from Kingsdown.

P.78. More sketches of eoliths, this time from pit field at Parsonage Farm.

P.79. Sunday July 26th till 29th 1908. At home working in museum. The sky notable for it's peculiar light and cloud formation, which however, brought no rain.

Thursday 30th proved to be another very hot day.

On August bank Holiday, the 3rd, the weather remained good with continuous sunshine. On Sunday Edward (Harrison), Mr Green and BH went to Knockmill at 9. Mr Green and Ted out again in the evening.

On Monday there was another outing to, among other places, Shingle Hill, Knole Park and Fawke Common and then home. Refers to Mr Green again and also to Mr Smith, the Rector of Ightham. A passing reference to Jake Walker, 'who played well getting 47 -1st and 67 fair innings.' Describes a balloon passing overhead. Recalls that this was a very quiet and restful time, which as it was very hot, made violent exercise undesirable.

P.80. Wednesday 5th August saw the village celebrate with its annual flower show. The weather sadly was wet and the cricket abandoned, as continues to be the norm for such occasions!

On Thursday 6th Willie Tomkin and BH spent the morning, again wet, sketching. The resident of Cop Hall was buried. On Saturday Kent beat Hampshire (cricket of course). The following narrative is about the match, and recalls an erroneous message that led them to believe Kent lost. On the same day BH found a decomposed flint pebble at Stansted. He notes that flint is a colloid opal, scattered throughout which are

particles of less soluble quartz, much of which is removed when the flint is acted upon by water containing carbonic acid. When partially dissolved, flint becomes opaque and white. This is taken from the work of Professor Judd and others.

P.81. Sunday the 9th August 1908 continued hot which BH spent quietly though he met Shilling at 11.30 and Kennard and his son later at 2.30, with whom he enjoyed a long chat. At 6.30 Mr Luke and his son called. Sketches of eoliths from Herne Bay and Birchington (Found by Wilson).

P.82. Wednesday August 12th 1908. Mr and Mrs Hodd called at 11. BH walked to Sevenoaks. Received the Rev Arthur Galpin, of King's School Canterbury, which, BH noted, is the oldest foundation in England being founded in 596, with the school being established in 620.

On Thursday 13th August 1908, met Mr Spillman, Son of the author of the *History of Punch*. Went to lunch at Crown Point. Mr Spillman promised to visit again.

Sketches of figure stones and palaeoliths. The 'pals' were found in Barn Field by Bassett and Ives.

P.83. More sketches, one of which is a figure stone that is what BH describes as 'doggy like'.

On Sunday 16th August BH records that Willie Tomkin and his two young girls went to Fish Ponds wood to finish a sketch. BH escorted them and found two fossils [writing is difficult to read here, looks like *Erica tetralix*¹⁶]. BH describes other plants that he found on this walk. He met Percy Martin who had two flints that he had taken to BH's house and, on finding him out had asked Guy Penfold to accompany him in search of BH. When they failed to find BH at Seven Wents they sent a motor in search of him.

P.84. Entry from previous page continues. BH says they all rode back together and were soon in the museum where they bought some of BH's plates and implements. On looking at a particular plate of The Royal Institute Mr Mountford? remarked that his father's portrait was among them. BH enquired who his father was and notes that he was eminent, 'a great scientist...' with many letters after his name, though he does not actually give details. The gentleman concerned vowed to come to see BH again. The gentlemen kindly drove Willie Tompkin and his daughters as far as Crown Point.

Basted fissure is mentioned, in which a Canadian visitor, an Indian, ventures a thought about one of the specimens, which he wished to purchase. They returned via Coombe Bank.

On Monday 17th August 1908 BH went to Coombe Bank where he found a series of palaeoliths, which he described as 'very fine'.

¹⁶ *Erica tetralix* is a type of heather that thrives in the acidic soil conditions that abound in the Ightham district

On Saturday 15th August BH went to Basted to a cricket match between Basted and Maidstone and where other teams also played, such as Fremlins pale Ale and Ightham. A good day was had and Manktelow got 49.

P.85. Tuesday 18th August 1908 saw a 'grand cricket match' take place on 'the Warren'. On the following day Charles Knight visited. BH mentions a garden party with music.

On Wednesday 19th August 1908 Charles Knight visited and BH accompanied him to Broomsleigh where they attended a garden party at which there was some good music.

An undated entry about a walk with General and Mrs Luard (of Ightham Mote) They met two of the Bassets and walked via Styants Bottom and on to Chart Farm. Mr Knight managed to keep slightly ahead of the group.

On Saturday 22nd August Mr Ward and his friend Mr Gibb, an Australian geologist, visited BH's museum at 11 where they had an interesting chat, particularly about the larger stone tools. The George and Dragon is where they repair for lunch after which they visit the rockshelters, which the Australian visitor was especially interested to see. BH quotes some of the visitors observations, most of which are illegible.

P.86. The entry from the previous page continues: More remarks from the Australian geologist about the local landscape around the rockshelters. The geologist seems to have conducted an exercise in lighting the dry grass in the vicinity of the rockshelters [possibly in relation to the use of fire as a signal from such an elevated place]. The day was successful and the visitor was impressed. They made their way to the station where the visitors caught the 3.30 train.

Details about the visitor who was associated with Professor Green of Leeds University. He was engaged in, among other things, ground deposit surveying in Australia. Abbeville anecdotes that bear no apparent connection to the foregoing entry followed by a reversion to the topic of the visitor who BH says looked particularly hard at a striated chopper from Ash (an eolith) which Professor Prestwich had illustrated in one of his publications. BH mentions the use of similar implements by indigenous Australians, and by other primitive peoples.

In an unrelated entry, BH mentions meeting General and Mrs Luard returning from visiting Mr James of Yaldham.

Sunday 22nd (23rd according to Edward Harrison's amendment) August BH notes the very red sky at 5.30, which made Mr Usherwood's elm tree look as if it was alight. Rain started at 7 and continued all day.

P.87. Monday 24th August dawned fair and saw BH sketching till 4 when Mr Noble of Queens College Cambridge arrived. He stayed till 6.30. This particular visitor, a private pupil of Professor Bonney whom he discussed with BH, offered tips on Bonney's attitude towards eoliths (to which, it seems, he was well disposed). Bonney is reported by Mr Noble as having said '... if they are proved to be man's work – then it is a monumental work'. Not surprisingly, BH regarded this encounter as being

‘...very pleasant.’ The encounter was to be repeated the following day when two additional visitors, colleagues of Mr Noble’s were expected.

Later that day BH was startled to learn that Mrs Luard’s body had been found dead by her husband near Mr Williamson’s chalet. Dr Walker was summoned to no avail. Murder was suspected though the police found nothing. BH sent off a letter by rail to C... of Gazettes [possibly the *South East Gazette* ?] asking him to send a reporter whom BH would ‘pilot to the scene’. BH says he was unable to sleep though he dreamt that he was out driving with Mrs Luard. He got up and read a copy of *The Cornhill*, in which there was a copy of Sir Henry Taylor’s poem that marked the passing of age.

P.88. The entry from the previous page continues. BH copied part of the *Cornhill* article into this notebook. He notes that only six days have passed since he and the Luards walked together from Oldbury Hill to Chart farm. Received some photographs that are probably related to the Luards.

BH speculates that either Mrs or Miss Williamson was the object of the murder. Though there follows an entry about the circumstances of Mrs Luard’s death in which the conclusion is that she was attacked not far from the wicket gate and had been wearing a lot of jewellery.

Tuesday 25th August. BH notes that this was an exciting day for all but writing precludes knowing exactly why. *The South East Gazette* is mentioned whose representatives made contact with BH about the Luard murder.

On the 26th of that month representatives of *The Standard*, *Chronicle* and *South East Gazette* all visited. The reporter from *The Standard* quizzed BH about the Luard’s married life. He confirmed that they were a devoted couple, always together and had recently celebrated their silver wedding.

P.89. The entry from the previous page continues. BH was asked how likely he thought it was that the general was the perpetrator of the murder. He replied ‘God forbid that I ever should entertain such a thought. I feel sure that anyone who really knows him would [not] think so’. The reports suggested that the police were working on this assumption. This line of thought disturbed BH. The interviewer surprised BH saying that in his opinion until somebody was proved to be the murderer that ‘... I shall always look upon him [the general] as an assassin’. BH expressed his revulsion at this thought and wondered if he had misunderstood the evidence. BH thought that many were misconstruing the evidence and were convinced of General Luard’s guilt. The news from outside quarters was that people from places as far apart as Tonbridge, London and Ash were convinced of his guilt. The Stock Exchange is mentioned as betting 3-1 against. Mr Mist took up the general’s defence and Luard found support, in the form of a clergyman for whose ‘comforting explanation...’ he was ‘much obliged’.

Friday 28th of August was a day to be remembered since there was so much activity relating to the murder with people, including the police and officials, around all day.

P.90. Mrs Mist called in on BH for a cup of tea after the funeral and reported that Mrs Luard had recently said that she had been frequently ‘...molested and asked for money’. BH suggested to her that she should make this known but she begged him not to mention it. And his [BH’s] wife, much disturbed by this, agreed with her. BH however wished to inform the police of this. He continued to discuss Mrs Luard and questioned Mrs Mist. He decided to interview one of Mrs Mists relatives wife. BH asked Mary to take the ladies their tea and he remained in the kitchen, creeping out when she had gone and interviewing Miss N... asking ‘Has your sister Mary Ann been to see you of late?’. The answer was ‘Yes, a month since’. He then asked ‘Did she ever live in Mrs Luard’s service’ to which the answer was ‘No’. It was revealed however that her uncle George’s wife had and BH was determined that she should be interviewed.

BH passed some information to the local PC, whom he saw in The George [and Dragon], who assured him he would visit Mures .¹⁷ BH says that this response satisfied him.

BH says he saw a visitor in Boro’ Green. He proved to be Mr Sayer of The Press Agency who had been in service with the Luards and who BH thought might have a picture of Mrs Luard. He [Mr Sayer] left to walk back to Sevenoaks.

The following morning BH says he interviewed Geo More who told him of the latter request.

P.91. Entry from the previous page continued: Geo More passed on words alleged to have been used by Mrs Luard a fortnight ago to the old cook: ‘You know how fond I used to be of walking in the woods. Yes, Well I am getting nervous as I have been noticed several times of late and asked for money’. This same person added that the pressman had called to try and get a photograph of his wife’s sister (who had been in-service for Mrs Luard). On hearing this information BH immediately departed to phone the Royal Crown to speak to Mr. Sayer, but no one of that name was known to them. He then rang the Rose and Crown but the stableman answered who also did not know anyone of that name. He suggested BH go the house and make enquiries, to which BH replied: ‘I am seeing to it’.

Sayer presently came to the phone to BH and informed him of some important developments and that he would be with BH soon. He arrived at 10.40 and BH took him to Mures so she could make her point. He comments on how nervous his wife is about the developments. The gentleman reassures the lady with possible information and tells her that anything she may tell him could be of help in clearing the suspicion that hangs over General Luard. The lady exclaims that she will tell all since she knows how fond of Mrs Luard the general was.

Sayer called in. There is reference to some recent developments on the cricket field and at ?Birds Hill. [Writing particularly illegible here.] They went into the George for a scotch and soda but Sayer ran off only to return two minutes later saying ‘I have arranged with ... to be taken to London at once and am going to try and get a photo’.

¹⁷ BH mentions his ‘parked bike’ here which is the first, and only reference to the fact that he was a ‘bikist’.

P.92. Continued from the previous page... BH informed their local PC at 9 and the gentleman who went to London, Mr Sayer, had just arrived back. He had searched the evidence and showed the letter to ?. He had also been to Essex to interview Mrs Mures and had secured the evidence from the cook [? Mrs Mures]. There is also mention of some sightings of suspicious characters.

BH had been to see Mr Carmichael Thomas of *The Graphic* on Thursday and had been told that a reporter would be sent on Monday. On Sunday 30th August 1908, BH, or another investigator, went at 9 to inform him of the additional evidence and the son of the informed person was sent to London.

Sunday was a day to be remembered with hundreds of bikists and pedestrians passing all day. At 11.30 BH went down the street to get a paper and met Dr Warren who asked BH to ride? .

Copy of a letter, dated 31st August 1908, from CR Luard, of Ightham Knoll¹⁸ in which he says: '... The point mentioned by you was mentioned to me by the Superintendent of Police at Sevenoaks, and I gave him all the additional particulars that he wished for, which he can produce if desired at the adjournment? Inquest. Thank you so much for your kind letter of sympathy. Yours truly, CR Luard'

The following entry, though it pertains to the Luard murder, is very difficult to read, however BH returned to Crown Point where the sight was of hundreds of cyclists and pedestrians the subject of whose conversation was: 'In his evidence before the convener the general apparently told a lie, or suppressed a point, he said he walked home by main road, when it was known to the public, police and pressmen that he rode in a motor car from the Crown Point with his friend Mr Cotton who picked him up – and the ... and the police were making the most of it. The letters to and return see above'.

P.93. The entry from the previous page continues and with Mrs Barrett, of Faversham, is quoted as saying that everyone in that district believes the general to be guilty.

31st August 1908. Mr Turnbull visited. An entry about photographs and picture postcards. The previous day Mrs Dagshot came across a photograph of Mr Gordon Ward taken in 1904. Some are of rock shelters which, when Professor Bonney saw them, prompted him to ask what they were and query the description of them as Palaeolithic. BH remarks that they were and such was proved at the 1891 meeting of the British Association.

Professor Bonney asked if he could see the local examples. Train departure times permitted a visit to Oldbury and viewing of the rockshelters. BH did not let him escape without a tramp around the hill taking in Middle Rock and Seven Wents and he departed [probably more weary than he had bargained for] by the 5.28 train as planned. Mr Wilcock called on Saturday as well as Major Luard

¹⁸ The General and Mrs Luard's home

P.94. Geo Mures arrived on Monday to see Mr Sayer who had received some photographs from his daughter-in-law. BH had received letters from Madles Field, Walton-on-the-Naze, Scotland and elsewhere asking for BH to send a letter of information. He says he found it rather painful to keep writing on such a theme. He wrote to Ted saying 'Ightham is like Brussels on the eve of Waterloo'. He links this to Byron's 'Child Harold'. [This was written between 1812 – 1818, and is about a world-weary hero who seeks oblivion in foreign lands.] Several non-sequential verses of the poem are quoted, starting with XXIV.

P.95. Once again the writing is small and difficult to read. It starts with a statement about the numbers of visitors to Ightham at this time, among whom was Dr W... Watson who BH found digging at the George.¹⁹

Mention of another gentleman, Mr Jewitt, who lunched with Dr Watson, both of whom it transpires were Masons and both of whom had theories as to the murder. He tried to get to the bungalow with the police and pressmen, but left disappointed. The Doctor was also there and continued to look around. Inexplicably, the PC let a lot of young girls onto the scene, which provoked a 'verbal set to'.

Dr Watson, who objected to the fact that he was refused entry whilst young girls were let in, calls the policeman '... a skink, I repeat a skink. All the stripes on your arms ought to be on your back'. Mr Winniffrith arrived from St. Leonards on the following day. He came again on Saturday September 5th and BH remarked on just how distressed he was to learn that General Luard was suspected of the murder. BH reassured him that theory had been dismissed.

The following sentence however shows that the police might have favoured this theory because it might have helped them ferret out other information. BH, on his return from seeing a reporter, explained the situation to his wife and Mary who said 'That is what everyone is saying and thinking'. [Meaning of course that they all believed the general to be guilty.]

Reverts to the more usual types of entry, this time about the rockshelters and a well-received article about them in the *Daily Graphic*. BH visited them some time after but was driven back by a thunderstorm. Mention of a Mr Briggs whom he 'piloted' to the rockshelters.

P.96. Continued from the previous page. Mr Maurice Church is another gentleman who visited the site and he acted as guide for Mr Trotter. BH provided a sketch map to guide them around the site. Mr Trotter conducted a sermon there!

BH was sent a photograph of this by the photographer he met at the Fishponds (Earlier entry in this volume.) BH had them enlarged and passed them on to Mrs Wilcock and Mrs Church.

The writing deteriorates at this point, becoming smaller and obviously written by BH when his emotions ran high. The topic is the about a third, smaller, revolver that Mr

¹⁹ When BH says 'digging' here I am sure he means searching for information on the Luard case and not in the archaeological, or any other, sense

Tewitt? recalled belonged to General Luard, that lived on a shelf in an outhouse. The general had admitted to the truth of this. This situation, BH considered, was one that needed some action taking. The question was asked who might have known that it was there?

Friday 4th September 1908. Mention of a local inspector who asked if anyone had been dismissed by Mrs Luard. BH now offers the information that someone who was dismissed by General Luard or Mrs Luard, may have acted out of spite (ie: murdered Mrs Luard). It was BH's hope that this would be cleared up at the inquest.

A Lloyds man passed through the village distributing leaflets offering a reward of £500 to anyone with information. The Inquest had been adjourned for 14 days and everyone was in a state of excitement.

One incident that BH thought worthy of mention concerned Holman (young as opposed to Old Holman) the brother of Mary who had, as the reader may recall, offered some gossip recorded on p 95, and who seems to have been a suspect since he fitted the physical description of a suspicious individual, of rough appearance, with ginger hair and a stubbly beard. Holman was arrested at dawn and detained...

P.97. Continued from the previous page: though released later when an alibi was confirmed which exonerated him. Holman is noted to have been illiterate.

There follows a somewhat garrulous passage involving a story about a French man who powdered a substance which he intended to give the Dauphin. Suspense is key to this story, and BH seems to be trying to illustrate the degree of suspense that was felt over Mrs Luard's murder.

The next passage describes the events of Tuesday that week: there was a small tornado which damaged Durling's window and the most promising crop BH had ever seen was wrecked. Whatever happened, BH thought it was designed to create HAVOC as far afield as East Farleigh and Golden Green.

On September 3rd, Professor Schwarz and his brother visited together with a lecturer in pharmacology from Cambridge. They went to Vigo in Kemsley's trap where eoliths were found in the drift on a high bank by the Lodge. They continued to Ash via Stone Street where they called on Stevens and Fuller from where they went on still further to B...ars, which they found to be in good condition for a search around the gravel strip there thanks to the fact that the corn had been cut. Many eoliths were discovered there. A circular diagram illustrates the gravel they found. On their return journey BH led them across an oat field where they found a block of Oldbury stone as well as some ochreous flint, some more eoliths and a palaeolith. BH saw his visitors safely on to the train at 5.15. It rained heavily for 12 hours after this.

P.98. Professor Schwarz, who had returned from a visit to see Rutot, gave a demonstration of how to retouch flint. [I am quite sure he did not need to do this for BH's sake as many of his own flint implements, in the possession of a current Ightham resident, testifies to his knapping skills.] The stages involved in fashioning an eolith are demonstrated by sketches and accompanying narrative. The following

day BH used an end hammer, presumably fashioned by Schwarz, on bone. He continued experimenting like this for several days.

P.99. More sketches of bone and an end hammer, and of how the stone tools had been used to produce holes in, and other modifications to the bone.

Saturday September 5th 1908. On Saturday September 5th BH went to see Mr Carmichael Thomas after which he stopped off just past Black House field.

Sunday 6th September 1908. BH spent the whole day at home resting.

On Monday, Professor Brough, Professor of Logic at the University College Aberystwyth, South Wales, called.

Wednesday 9th of September was the day of the inquest. That week the space in front of the Inn was full of traps and many pedestrians.

On Saturday 12th September Mr and Mrs Shrivell and their daughters called. On Friday 12th BH's daughter Agnes, and Miss Green called. BH thought Miss Green '...a winning soul and I was especially pleased'.²⁰

P.100. Thursday, Friday and Saturday were spent experimenting with stone tools on wood and bones. The following day, Sunday, BH walked to the common and called on Ashe and Diplock about an arrow head [a tanged and barbed Bronze Age arrow head] which BH has sketched. Mr Ashley promised to look for his and BH remarks that Diplock will not part with his as he intends getting it mounted. He remarks on the quality of the artefact.

Monday and Tuesday, 21st and 22nd September 1908, BH spent sketching.

Saturday 19th September BH talks of yesterday's troubles leaving him feeling restless and unable to sleep. He found some lines of poetry that were of some comfort to him. The poem begins:

Any event upon earth
Ends in this ... Bind up my wound
Give me but strength again to mow the field
And I will carve myself a nobler ...
Than my disfigured one. God would not permit
That I should fall by hand so base

A soul wrought ... a double tragedy'

The following entry mentions a museum and Mr Turnbull as well as the exhumation of a dog. An article from *The Daily Graphic* is mentioned though not directly quoted from.

P.101. Refers to Colonel Ward, whose friend is the Chief Constable who, it is said, has the 'case in hand...'. On Friday 3rd July a reporter from *The Daily Graphic* came

²⁰ I think this Miss Green is the lady who was to become Edward Harrison's wife.

again. At the time BH and Ernie were listening to an organ outside playing some popular music. The remark 'have you heard the latest?' prompted a reply in the negative and their preparedness for the worst. The reporter then produced a Press Agency copy in which General Luard is said to have been found out to possess a Farleigh²¹. BH comments that this revelation is a startling finale. The reporter asked if BH knew him well and BH confirmed that he did. This affirmation prompted a request for details of the General's life. BH furnished the details willingly since he had known the General since he was a small child and was able to talk about him and his family. BH also says he has not had a chance to talk to the General recently.

P.102. The entry from the previous page continues. A conversation with Sir Mark Collett is mentioned, after which Sir Mark took him (General Luard) home in his motor. He says he must go to see him to try and establish his conduct in ordinary circumstances. Everyone awaited the reporting that might result from this action.

The busy station [most likely Sevenoaks] is mentioned, and the Headmaster of Sevenoaks Grammar School, who came on his bike to ask particulars. He said that he knew him well him being one of the Trustees in company with Lord Sackville [of Knole at Sevenoaks] and others. He was terribly upset by events, saying that he did not believe General Luard committed the murder. BH comments that there was a wonderful sunset the previous evening. There are comments about Egypt and similar sunsets there. A poem of Tennyson's is mentioned, though not specified.²²

P.103. Entry from the previous page continues. The poem is about a 'poor, long-suffering soul, about to enter paradise'. General Luard is equated with the tormented soul of Tennyson's poem. BH writes 'See evidence at Inquest' and then details a visit to the grave of Mrs Luard by some unspecified persons, though I think he refers to General Luard, who, on entering the porch of the church saw a dog, which they struck, not knowing whose animal it was. They were overawed by the beauty of the fabric of the church upon entering it. They heard a low moan and saw a kneeling figure. The kneeling person rose, hiding his face with his hands.

On Sunday 20th September 1908 BH remained at home. The weather was fine. The following day was that of the funeral of Mrs Luard to which BH went together with a large number of others.

On the 22nd BH went to the County Court till 4pm. A discussion about some rights and some remarks from the judge to the effect that he 'did not like but must submit to law'.

In Allchin's case BH gave evidence about Vennell, Larkin, Crown, Crown, Crisp and Dean. BH mentions a point that Sharp made a point that was not ...? The proceedings were adjourned.

²¹ A hand gun. Even today in Ightham it is rumoured that Major General Luard had a hand gun with which he murdered his wife

²² I think he must be referring to *In Memoriam*, Tennyson's elegy in memory of his dead friend Hallam. BH would have been familiar with this poem, the more so because it ponders on the scientific discoveries of Darwin and Lyell and also the mystery of death.

P.104. Copy of a letter from H. Smith...? of Strood, dated 19th September 1908:
'... I hardly know why I should bother you with this letter – only to say how angered I feel at the un-English behaviour of the English public to poor General Luard. I re-echo some of the loathing of his relative's letter in tonight's paper. Ignoring all the past life of an honourable English Gentleman and soldier – smitten with a calamity as terrible as it was sudden – people have poured salt upon his wounds and driven him to death.

Uncharged, without evidence – save that which he bespoke his love and consistency – these creatures have apparently written him letters of open accusation! It is all so contrary to English ideals of justice.

Carlyle despaired of us when the country was run by penny newspapers. I despair more than ever now that it is being run by halfpenny ones. I trust that you are well and all your family. Heaven ever preserve you and I from such a fate as the poor General's.

It is a national disgrace! Kindest regards.

NB I have done no bookwork of late only the daily business grind'.

P.105. BH notes the hot, almost tropical, weather that has predominated for some days.

Wednesday 23rd September 1908 He refers to Ightham Knoll (The home of the Luards) and Captain Luard Who gave specimens of rocks for distribution to friends. [I wonder if this refers to the Late General's possessions, among which may have been some lithic specimens, which his son wished to distribute among friends of the generals as mementos.]

The following day, another fine one, Percy Martin and Mr Treacher acted as directors of a large party that went on an outing to Limpsfield. BH was unable to go having business at The Knoll to attend to.

On Monday there was a sale at the Knoll when BH bought lot 190, a motley collection of items. There were a large number of people there and prices were high.

On Wednesday PC Barker and BH went to the rockshelters, fishponds, Crown Point and up the path to the bungalow (near which Mrs Luard's body was found). He notes a possible 'standing place with hands on rail looking through the open at the chancel end of the church'²³.

They made a long and careful inspection of the site. He noted a bullet hole in the veranda and also a place of probable secretion, which was hidden when standing close to the wall, where a commanding view of the rear approach was to be had. This he thought could be a hiding or sleeping place but decided against this possibility.

²³ He is here referring to St Lawrence Church, a short distance from the bungalow site.

They timed themselves with a stop-watch, getting from where they were to the gate in 6 minutes. BH ‘...paced and counted 498 steps – by placing a coin in empty space for each 100. I went on walk to Hall Farm 18 minutes at a brisk pace. $18 + 6 = 24$ minutes – The General was seen at Hall farm by Mr Duncan at 3.20 it is physically impossible for him to have fired the shots at 3/15 and got here in five minutes which took us 24 to walk’ They then made their way back to Redwall and refreshed (themselves) having ‘gained information’.

P.106. Continued from the previous page: here they visited Botting Sawyer in wood behind Part...? Cottage. There is a mention of someone who saw a little girl pass along the path (adjacent to the cottage where Mrs. Luard met her death) at 3.15 or 3.20. The path is noted as starting near the junction of the roads [possibly Stone Street which joins the path via Raspit Hill] by the Church, and branching off, leading to the Firs, and runs out to Farm’s Wood. Most people traverse this then revert back to the bungalow and go through the gap taken by the bloodhounds – shortly before they reached the road. A turn to the east led to the top of Stag Hill.

This exercise convinced BH that the murderer was well acquainted with the wood and by using this route he would have been able to avoid the road. BH has a map which he here advises the reader to consult, noting the blue line that traces the route just described [there is a map with all this detail in the Maidstone Museum archive].

BH made his way home via Rose Wood arriving there by 4.30. He was out from 9.30 to 4.30 on a hot day (76 in the shade).

Original, typed letter from a gentleman living in Kew about a Billingsley rose, about which BH had enquired. Dated October 5th 1908.

On Friday 2nd October 1908 Mr F Crush and his daughter, together with the Vicar and his wife, visited. They walked to the common, past the Knoll and on to Seven Wents near the camp and the rockshelters. BH enjoyed the walk. The following day he saw some football in which Ightham played Boro’ Green at 3.

Two sketches of a Billingsley rose on a match box, below which BH has written ‘Diplock’.

P.197. BH defines enamel as ‘a vitrous glaze...’. He then goes on to talk about enamelling in the middle of the last (19th) century. It looks as if he has copied an entry about this from *The Encyclopaedia Britannica*. This is clearly a continuation of the entry about the Billingsley rose which was most commonly the type found represented on fine enamelled ware, which included snuff boxes, patch boxes, tea canisters, candlesticks, needle cases and a variety of other small articles. BH says that a peculiar rose tint used and advantage was taken of the process transforming engravings taken from copper plate to glazed surfaces.

On the following day, Sunday 4th October 1908, Mr H. Barker of Rochester visited with Lewis Biggs. He discusses a type of box used by ladies to ‘arrange patches on their face – at that time fashionable. ‘Said A was worth £200.’ Fine day, more visitors called for a chat.

The following day, though fine, brought with it a cold east wind. The day after BH and Mr Bennett went at 1.30 to the bungalow. Once again BH investigated possibilities about the murder since he and Mr Bennett measure distances and times taken to cover same ground. He again followed the path taken by the bloodhounds.

P.108. Entry from the previous page continues with PC Barker again mentioned, though he does not seem to have accompanied BH and Mr. Bennett on this reconnoitre. They returned via Middle Wood and the rock shelters. BH mentions a note from PC Barker in which the diversity of time as denoted by clocks is discussed. Mrs Wickham of Seal and her time-telling mechanism is mentioned, which BH says might be 'five minutes out' which BH concluded meant that the General could have 'traversed in the few moments grace'. The 'Super[intendent]' who investigated the morning following the murder took pains to go to ?... and set his watch. On getting to Mrs Wickham's he asked her if she could tell him the time to which she replied 'here is my clock' and he found it correct to a minute.

Wednesday 7th October dawned fine and warm.

The following day was Harvest Festival at which service Mr Ralph Monckton preached. The printed hymn for harvest is pasted in below this.

P.109. Thursday 8th October was humid with rain later in the day. BH mentions some experiment [? on stone] the results of which he sent off to Professor Schwarz.

The following day was wet overnight with a bright day following. Once again BH went to the bungalow with a person whose name is illegible. Again times and distances were worked out. This time 17 ½ minutes to sand pit on the same path.

On the 11th October 1908 BH and Percy Martin visited at three and stayed till five.

On Monday 12th October BH spent time cutting down the ivy from the house and burning it. Warm day.

13th October 1908. Miss Lettie Elliot married to Mr. Hoppetin at 2.

A poem to Bennett, on the Coldrum Index Stone:

Now you're firmly fixing swallow holes
And Western sphinx as well
I'll fund your work to carry on
That will amuse you well
It is to find the Index Stone
From Coldrum due north east
It lies below the Pilgrim's way
Some hundred yards at least
The site was pointed out to me
At least twenty years ago
By ploughmen working on Hill Farm
But I'm too rushed to go
The fields are now just right for search

Tis far away for me
So do your best to ferret out
If hell bent you be
Methinks it is important
To fix it if we can
T'll aid Sir Norman Lockyer
For he's a cunning man...

P.110. Poem from previous page continues:

To work out Coldrum's interest
A b... as you know
So keep an open eye and map
If there you chance to go.

'This forced him for he went at once and found three stones on mound and one standing upright. See his map'.

Thursday October 15th 1908. BH spent the day mounting maps and dealing with general correspondence. It was warm. Sketch of a Wealden stone from Limpsfield.

Mention of Coccket's Farm, Limpsfield, dated October 16th 1908. A day that BH describes as 'Red Letter...' He started out at 8.40 and met a man in white at Seven Wents. and from there went on first to Chipstead and then to Limpsfield where he had a good look at the gravels, which he notes are largely composed of tertiary pebbles with no chert among them. Then it was on to the builders yard near a public house to see a section he observed in October 1886. The seam of Wealden debris seen here reposed on Folkestone beds under a covering of flint gravel. Among this mix he also observed the presence of ironstone. He found one worked pebble, an eolith, which is sketched in ink.

P. 111. Entry from the previous page is continued here. BH called on Mr Wickham with whom he had a long chat. He noted that an interesting section lay close to Mr Wickham's back door. BH has sketched this. It was also close to the golf links where people were playing. From here he moved on to Payne's Hill with Percy (Martin, BH's companion from Ightham), walked half way down to a place where ogee curved implements had been found by a workman. BH noted the white patina of these implements and their similarity to the rockshelter specimens. From the edge of the scarp slope he and Percy went to a quarry where they noted decomposed chert on the top, similar to that found on the top of Beacon [Raspit] Hill in Ightham. Then it was on again, this time to Crockenhill where they had a good view of Leith Hill. They continued walking towards Westerham, passing Squerries where they had a good view of the configuration and Farly Hill. They then retraced the path towards Cackett's Farm and found two Neolithic implements and a fine pal. In the next field they found Tertiary pebbles and also note a seam of flint. On then to Dry (Hythe Beds) hill where they note an interesting anticline. They arrived home at 6 with Miss D Beer accompanying them.

P.112. A lovely ink/wash sketch of a Palaeolithic stone tool which Edward Harrison notes must have been done from memory and is from Cackett's Farm, Brasted. Edward disagrees with BH's note on the colour, as green, suggesting it was brown. Edward's note is dated 25th September 1923 [a time after his father's death when he was working on his account of BH's life]. This find is on a map according to Edward's note, though he does not specify which map.

Sunday 18th October was very foggy but this did not stop BH setting off with Percy (Martin) for Ivy Hatch via Dunk's Green. He paced out some part of the landscape and comments upon the remains of Roman Villa's and pottery, which he notes is British Samian ware. The presence of tufa is also commented upon. From there they go on to the Old Soar where they met Mr Stoneham who showed them over the place and with whom they had a nice chat. They arrived home at 1.30, BH being dropped off by Mr Stoneham at Seven Wents. Later, Ted (Edward Harrison) and Agnes (Harrison) and Mr Green went to Shipbourne returning via Kemsing.

Pencil sketch of a window in the Old Soar.

P.113. Another sketch, this time of a door from the north side of Old Soar.

The next few days, from 19th to 22nd October 1908, were largely spent in the museum. After this BH says there was a cold snap with snow during the night of the 24th October. So cold was it that BH lit the fire upstairs for the first time that winter. The weather proved fine the following day and BH went to Boro' Green and then on to Mrs Chalklin's To see a recently found Palaeolithic implement from Longlands. From there he went on to Bay Shaw to see the trench and exposed gravels, in which there was much ironstone. More sketches, this time various views of the palaeolith found at Longlands.

Rain ensued on 26th October with a cold north east wind. The following day proved much the same and BH stayed in arranging his fossils. Newspaper clipping of a review of a book by Mr Baring-Gould entitled *Cornish Characters and Strange Events?*.

P.114. The 29th October was very foggy and wild with the sun only occasionally breaking through. BH went to Boro' Green to post a letter to Mr Sims. He mentions the Luard mystery as having been reported in the American press.

Reverting to October 18th, he mentions Hindu theory though does not elaborate.

Mentions a picture of five cousins in a pond, knee deep in water with rushes and lilies around them. BH judged this painting one of Cowley's best. There follows a poem, that is inspired by the picture and local train journeys that continues to P.115.

P.115. Saturday October 31st and BH and Willie Tomkin went to Fish Ponds where they examined the ponds where the depth was measured at about a foot and where the

Ling-grass,²⁴ rushes and sphagnum moss was growing well. The following day he went out again, this time to Boro' Green.

Monday 2nd November he went to Bay Shaw where men were working on the path which revealed a shallow, curving drift with, in parts, much ironstone at its base. He notes a find of part of a re-worked polished celt.

P.116. Went to church in the evening. Mentions the Bishop of Rochester and a missing man. Thursday (Edward suggests it was actually Tuesday) BH went again to Bay Shaw where Roman vessels had been found at about 3 feet deep in the trench. Fragments were given to Mr Coombe.

Sketches of a Broseley pipe also found by the church steps and some eoliths, also given to Mr Coombe. More sketches, this time pencil and wash, of an ogee-curved implement also found in the gravels in Bay Shaw on November 6th 1908. BH remarks that it is 'A beauty'.

P.117. The 8th – 10th November was cold with frost. BH was out and about in Ightham and Boro' Green. Sketches of an interesting eolith from 2 ½ feet down and a palaeolith from Bay Shaw. November 14th wet so BH spent time in his museum.

P.118. November 17th another, creamy white palaeolith was found in the Bay Shaw trench. Sketched in ink and wash. The following day BH went to Sevenoaks. Rode home with Mrs Durling.

On the 18th BH went again to Bay Shaw where he noted immense blocks of ironstone in the trench, together with large flints and Oldbury stone. He found some eoliths. He returned to Bay Shaw noting that the gravel became very coarse towards the north end of the trench.

On Sunday of that he made his way to the bungalow once again. He and his companion Sidney Diprose, found an arrow head and some Palaeoliths. Miss Usherwood was the recipient of some of these finds. On Monday he again went to Boro' Green to see Sills (? Spencer Sills) and a skeleton which, Sills informed BH, had been recently found lying full length and three feet deep. Cold weather with a north wind

P.119. More sketches of palaeoliths from Patch Grove south, found by Hayman and Upper Brooms found by Mr Church, and Pitfield Ash found by Mr Wilson. As well, what looks like a human caput, found lying near the Shode, is also sketched. This was sent by Mr Maskell of Bromley, though a late resident of Crouch.²⁵ The skeleton referred to on the previous page is mentioned again and S(pencer) Sills notes that it was actually found at a depth of between 4-4 ½ feet deep. He thinks it may be Roman as the nails found in association with it are similar to those which feature in Pitt-River's book.

²⁴ Ling, or false oat grass, grows well in acidic environments as does heather and bilberries, all abundant in the Ightham area where acidic Folkstone sand is found in abundance quite close to the surface

²⁵ A village within easy walking distance of Ightham

P.120. Photograph of the human caput with a verse below asking who it is (or was).

On Friday 27th November BH heard of the death of Richard Rogers²⁶ whose burial took place on the previous Monday. Ted was unable to attend as it was held during the week and BH could not go as he had lumbago.

He notes the completion of the work in Bay Shaw that day. A farmer was set to work ploughing which brought to light a seam of gault and huge boulder flints in association with ironstone and Oldbury stone and, where he noted the presence of eoliths but no palaeoliths.

P.121. Sunday 29th November 1908. BH to visit Mr Anquetil and Dr R...

The entry reverts to more accounts of happenings on the day of the Luard murder. The General encountered Mrs Stewart waiting at his house when he returned home and is noted by her to have been chatty, cheerful and pleasant and, of particular note, very puzzled to find Mrs Luard 'had not returned', remarking how punctual she was. Once more, having looked at his watch he was said to have remarked 'It is strange that she has not returned... I will go to meet her'. Mrs Stewart and her husband then made for Seven Wents hoping to meet Mrs Luard every minute. The conclusion is, once again, that it was impossible for the General to have been her murderer.

Monday 30th November was notable for a heavy fog that 'saturated everything'. BH hid away in his museum.

BH records a trip to Ash to see a trench where he found what, at first sight, looked like an elephant's tooth but which turned out to be part of a huge mandrake root which grew prolifically in that particular location. This is sketched.

P.122. Another sketch of a mandrake and narrative, with all the myths about mandrake roots that are supposed to shriek when pulled from the ground.

P.123. A sketch of a palaeolith found at Bay Shaw on December 1st 1908. Another sentence about Mandrakes.

An entry about Mr. Wilson's lecture on 'The Story of the Chalk Hills'.

A short poem about the sun.

Newspaper photograph and announcement of the retirement of Dr Jameson from the post of Premier of the Cape Colony.

Another newspaper clipping about the British Association meeting in Dublin.

A rubbing of a Roman coin found on an allotment on 8th December 1908.

²⁶ BH's first wife was Elizabeth Rogers of Ash and Richard is one of that family with whom BH had never lost touch

Un-numbered page, dated January 8th 1908. An abstract of a paper by Sir John Evans. BH started to read it at 9.10 and was woken by his wife from a dream-like state at 3.30 a.m. in which he imagined that Pitt-Rivers called to see him from Elysium and they had an interesting chat on stone implements, the General being particularly interested in acquiring some Plateau implements (eoliths). They talked about Sir John's paper and about some implements from Bedfordshire which Pitt-Rivers would have classified as Mousterian rather than Chellean, as suggested by de Mortillet. The discussion ended there as BH was roused from this reverie by his wife.

A newspaper clipping of some remarks made by Sir Oliver Lodge, a scientist and spiritualist savant who claimed he had communicated with the dead.

Un-numbered page with two cartoons, both hunting related.

Last un-numbered page. Newspaper clipping of a memorial service for the late Sir Joseph Prestwich, with a line of two of verse in the margin in BH's handwriting. No date or attribution for the clipping.

This concludes Volume 24 of the Benjamin Harrison archive held at the Maidstone Museum.

Angela Muthana 29th February 2016.