

Maidstone Museum

Benjamin Harrison Archive

Volume 30

[This volume, though numerically last in the series, actually records the years 1899 to 1900, from January to July respectively, and does not follow the sequence of the previous volume, 29, that records the events of 1911. This highlights the very evident fact that some, perhaps many, of the original volumes are missing from the Maidstone Museum archive.]

P.1. On the fly leaf. A section sketch of the Folkestone beds as revealed by the railway cutting a quarter of a mile west of Boro' Green. BH records 15 feet of brickearth at the base of which runs the railway line. In another sketch he notes the presence of flint gravel and small Tertiary pebbles. This information is, a note informs us, copied from notebook 3 (one of the missing volumes) and was noted in 1881.

Below this is a copy of a paragraph from P.75 of *The life of G. Allen*. January 4th 1899.

On 4th January 1899 BH went to the Wrotham drift exposed in section near the water works at the bottom of St Mary's Lane. The flint drift there lay on a chalk marl. Near the Working Man's Club a deeper section was revealed. BH comments on a block of Oldbury stone in a hedge south of Pilgrim's Way, in line with the Stansted road coombe.

Monday January 8th was a fine and spring-like day that saw BH set off for West Bank to see McDermott. They examined Dark Hill top field south of the railway, which had been recently ploughed after many years as a pasture. There they found 'one rude body stone'. BH notes the stickiness of the soil, which he compares to de-calcified chalk.

On January 15th there was a white frost after heavy and continuous rainfall. Kennard dropped in to see him at 12.30. He was soaked but brought along spoil from the fissure, one bone, which, it was supposed, was from a bear's jaw. BH stayed in drawing large diagrams of the chalk plateau and copying Newton's diagram of the denuded land, of which there was a large chart in the museum. They had an enjoyable time.

P.2. Sunday January 22nd 1899 was a stormy day but BH and his wife went to Crowhust, across the fields to the warren, all the time walking against the gale. A bright and beautiful evening and night followed the gale.

On Wednesday January 28th BH went to the excavations at Lees Villa (Higham) close to the infant school, where there was a rubble drift of flint about 3-4 feet deep.

On Sunday the 29th BH went to Platt Grange at 11 and back via the hop garden where he noted the presence of a large spread of flint drift. This he thought was worth another visit. Mention is made of evolution according to the Manchester Science Lectures for the People of 1876-7. The title of one lecture was 'The Succession of Life on Earth'. This topic, he notes, involved the study of an enormous number of facts. Converging facts are discussed that are considered more interesting than those which stand alone. This is taken from p.46 of the lectures.

Cross -section of the land around Ightham, showing the Shode gorge. The diagram is said to demonstrate denudation since the mid-glacial stage and implement finds are marked with a '+'. BH has written 'Before Shode was I am' and Edward has added 'You irreverent creature'. He mentions an implement found by Diprose by Ightham Knoll, as shown on the diagram. This stone tool he considers to be an important connecting link that needs to be worked out more fully. Sketch of the tool superimposed over the entry.

P.3. Wednesday February 1st BH, Mrs Harrison and a friend went to Peckham Wood. BH mentions a flake from an excavation above Beech Tree on the Exedown Road. Tree felling was going on at Terry's Lodge Farm undertaken by 'old Cadd' to prevent the tree falling on a roof.

Sunday February 5th dawned wet after a spell of brilliant, frosty conditions. BH spent his time writing and sketching and reading Lubbock's account of Switzerland. He also wrote a long letter to Mr Bell.

By 12th February stormy weather had returned and the barometer was falling. BH ventured out to Fane Hill but had no luck with finds. On Wednesday 15th he went to Mount House spread where he was able to search the west end of a trench. There he found one eolith. He also searched Harriet Bassett's plantation where he found only white, weathered chert. There was neither flint nor any Tertiary pebbles. He did however find part of an implement, which resembled Acheulian stone tools. This he sent on to Sir John Lubbock. Underlined in red is an enigmatic entry about Malling Comp, Highlands, Mount House and the fissure. He has clearly got to West Malling, probably by train and walked back to Basted.

On the 19th February BH went to St Leonard's Tower where he saw a lot of orchids and stained flint in the nearby hop garden. He also notes the presence of yellow chert. A sketch of two eoliths, one from Highlands east the other from the north of the village of Boro' Green.

P.4. The entry from the previous page continues. BH examined the field south of the road and the hop garden, and advises us to see the map, a facsimile of which is not made available. From there he pressed on to Highlands where, in a field east of the house he found what he describes as 'an interesting worked stone' a drawing of which is on the previous page (it is an eolith of the 'crook' variety). He continued along, tracing the gravel capping on the Folkestone beds. He was unable to examine the patch west of the Knoll as it was covered with grass and there were only a few lithic pieces visible. He carefully traced along the hedge to the south and, where there were rabbit burrows, this line revealed some of the geological sections. From there he went on to Platt Common and Mount House where he notes there were some

fragments of flint, again visible owing to rabbit cryoturbation. At the fissure, he joined Kennard. He was home by 1.30. He mentions that at the Boro' Green sand pit capping, he saw a well-worked crook type with a hollow and he thought it as well to copy one of Sir Joseph Prestwich's letters, possibly dated 1881 or 2:

I am glad to hear of your further finds and to learn that you have been more successful than I was 2 or 3 years ago in finding implements on the high level gravels. The cutting we examined was the one on the station. We had however, not much time to give to the search. The position is very analogous to the flint-bearing high-level gravel at Salisbury and bears some analogy to the Rec... gravels. In neither of these places have bones been found. You will of course look at them as well as for implements when the new cuttings are made.

BH then notes that this letter fixes the date before the railway was widened. He quotes a note from his book of May 1890: 'This which I found and treasured and was a specimen similar to (the) Ash type but placed many years ago on the waste heap. Having no bulb I placed to suspense a/c, now I regret it.'

P.5. February 6th 1899. There was a 'hoar frost', which was clear by 10. By 11.15 BH, his wife and Mrs Bailey went to Buley and from there to Styants Bottom and Hawleys Knoll where BH notes the presence of a lot of weathered chert, many pieces of Oldbury stone but no flint. He also comments on the holes dug as a result of the recent tree planting, which disclosed a red, stony soil. The green, Oldbury stone appeared to be confined to the north face. He met Percy Martin from 1 till 2 and then went on to see Potter from 3 till 6.

On March 6th BH went to Maidstone by train where he met Mr James, (the Curator). He mentions a series (of eoliths) in case 1, which included a British Association series and a set of a hundred 'rudes, sketched', half the rockshelter specimens, numbering 66, half of the hill group specimens, numbering 76 and half of his Mesolithic collection numbering 18. He mentions supplying a series of plates used by Sir Joseph Prestwich.

There follows a copy of an appeal to raise money to buy his collection for Maidstone Museum, dated 2nd March 1899. The letter reveals that the appeal did not raise sufficient funds to buy the collection but that a sum of £230 was offered to BH. In the margin, in red ink is a copy of a letter from George Payne to BH asking if he was selling his entire collection to Maidstone, as monies had been promised from other bodies, one of which was the Kent Society [the Kent Archaeological Society].

P.6. BH outlines the possible division of his collection, dated March 2nd 1899, which is as follows:

B The whole of the Medway gravel specimens in Case 2

C Equal half of the Hill gravel series Case 3

D do do Rockshelter Oldbury

E Nine specimens of Mesolithic impts

F All the Milton Street 100 ft gravel flints

G provide an almost identical set of specimens illustrating the 12 plates of Sir Joseph Prestwich's paper on *Controverted Questions...*

I agree that the above should be the basis of the transfer.
Dated March 2nd 1899

A short note on the reservoir follows in which the remains of a fire [ancient] had been found. In BH's opinion, and that of the foreman, this was an undisturbed find with flint drift overlying it. This lay at 3 – 4 feet below the surface and was about 8 inches thick.

Sunday March 5th dawned bright but cold. BH and his wife went to Exedown and Terry's Lodge reservoir. The turf had been removed and BH made a close examination noting the presence of Neolithic flakes as well as 'several Plateau tools'. He met the tenant of Terry's Lodge Farm who gave him permission to examine the field to the west. From there BH and Mrs. H went on to the chalk pit where they found many small 'rudes' by the path south of the drift. He notes the presence of one piece of ironstone, like that found in the Lenham deposits. He must then have gone home as he mentions time spent sketching a 'series for Maidstone' to illustrate a plate from 'Controverted Questions' [one of Sir Joseph Prestwich's papers].

On Wednesday March 8th 1899 BH started out at 9.15 to Exedown where the men had dug down about 2 feet, the proposed depth being about 4 feet. The overall area to be dug was about 86 feet square. He noted a 'considerable spread of blackened mould' at about 18 inches down. Some of the flint at this level had a 'crackled' appearance, just like 'pot boilers'. In the evening BH and Mrs Harrison walked up to the site where he notes that the workmen had reached the level of 'stiff, mouldy clay' at a depth of four feet. BH had a 'long chat' with the manager.

P.7. March 8th 1899. Copy of a letter received by BH from EB Newton of the Geological Survey thanking him for information about Plateau sections currently open, or due to open and which he expected to visit soon.

On the 9th March, BH sent A Dunn up to the newly opened pit at Terry's Lodge at 2 to report on the geology. He noted very sticky red clay at a level of 4 feet deep.

Sunday March 12th was a fine day and BH went to Knockmill and the reservoir with friends. He searched Ganley's field and found one white flake with a bulb. With Mr and Mrs Anning (the morning friends) and Mr and Mrs Baily, BH went in the afternoon to Fishponds and St Lawrence Church and then with Mr Anning to Exedown where he notes the presence of 'a profusion of flakes in the drift on fan of escarpment' At the reservoir he notes the presence of 'huge white flints from clay must wait for weathering action to see the sections'. Chapman was there. The foundations of some stables are noted as being in sand under a thin layer of humus,

but with no flint drift being evident. BH thought that the best view of the Maplescombe Valley was from Chapman's house, from which the flint-bearing traces could be seen to advantage. Then on to the reservoir where the foreman, who had come from London the day before, was mapping and measuring and taking notes. BH thought he was from the [Geological] Survey and noted the presence of 8 or 9 men making good headway and expected them to reach the area of the dew-pond quite quickly.

On March 16th BH describes a geological bed at Boro' Green, south of the infant school. Ashley informed BH that Lee had started a brickfield, which, even then was many feet deep. On the 17th of the same month Lee informed BH that the presence of a loam of 'exceptionally good character' had been found at 6 feet and which was underlain by flint and gravel. Sid Batey found two worked flints said to have been lying at about 5 – 6 feet deep. Also noted were two clay pipes, curiously found at about the same depth, which made BH hesitate to accept the flints as in-situ finds. He vowed to go and see for himself.

P.8 Sunday March 19th 1899. A bright but cold day. So cold in fact that BH sought the warmth of the parlour rather than remain in his museum. Once there he sketched a series of eoliths/palaeoliths from Prestwich's collected papers for Maidstone Museum. At 10.45 he ventured out to Boro' Green where he inspected the beds in the brickearth pit, where gault and sand was noted. After this he went on to the fissure, where the base-bed was observed and then, at 11.30, on to Oldbury and home with Mrs Harrison. He again notes the cold weather going on to comment on the exceptional nature of the cold with severe frosts and bright, starlit nights. It was so cold that he did not go to see the progress in the reservoir at Terry's Lodge. There, a Neolithic celt had been found at about 2 feet deep. A sketch of the section with a sketch of the celt and description of the soil in its find-spot. Also a small sketch of a gault fossil found there.

P.9. Sunday March 26th was a fine day after heavy rain the previous night. BH met Dr Stopes, Dr Conn and Kennard at the station from where they made their way to the reservoir but not till after they had spent a little time in BH's museum. From the reservoir they all made their way to Ash where they had lunch at the Anchor (the Anchor and Hope, still there). They went on to Crooked Billett and then, via a footpath, to Yoke. They later called in on Smith, Evans and Mr Day whose master found [not specified] as well as some fine examples of 8 or 9 palaeoliths, some of which were out on loan. Mr Holt White and Mr Jones from East Wickham were keen on the survey and had found a single specimen. BH home at 6. Kennard and his wife had visited whilst BH was out.

Good Friday March 31st saw rain and was a generally close and oppressive day. BH lay down and rested for part of the day but went out in the evening when he observed water pipes being laid, which he found interesting.

Easter Sunday, April 2nd 1899. BH quotes someone who said 'when hope becomes a certainty, patience is an easy matter'. He then wrote a long letter to Grant Allen in response to being 'moved by a passage in his 'Charles Darwin' (p.75 and possibly the source of his quotation). Agnes and BH went to Rosewood and Birches and in the

evening to the Wrotham Church service. The church was lit by gas and outside was 'utter darkness'.

Easter Monday saw Mrs Harrison, Kennard and BH take Barber's trap, at 9.45, to the Hill Fort and on to Exedown using the Old Road to Stansted. They went down the valley and across the field to the Anchor and through the churchyard to north Ash. They called on Mr Day and inspected his spoil where Evans also showed them his finds from the field south east of his house. BH and his companions searched the land with no success. From there they went to Ash Place where they found some palaeoliths but not a trace of any eoliths. A sketch of three eoliths in ink and brown wash.

P.10. Sketches of the palaeoliths found by Evans as described on the previous page. Number 71 is described as 'highly specialised'. Mentions Crystal Palace (probably visible to them at this height, standing as it then did in the south east of London). They continued in the direction of Maidstone stopping to search a patch of land where they found some convincing eoliths. Home at 5.45 having had a 'delightful' day.

P.11. More ink/wash sketches of a palaeolith and two eoliths. A continuation of BH's Easter Sunday activities, this time a visit to Spark's field crossing from the malthouse, a route he describes as 'very promising'. The section just east of Evan's home in north Ash showed the presence of Thanet sands on top and mottled clay. The excavation behind Pratt's cottage for a tank [sketched] showed a bulbous pillar of chalk as well as clay-with-flints. Superimposed is a sketch of a palaeolith.

BH sketches the section revealed by the work laying pipes in the main street in Ash. It is a mix of Kentish ragstone, blocks of Oldbury stone and a flint gravel with ironstone and bones at the spot marked * and worked flint at the spot marked +. This latter BH describes as Mesolithic. Dated April 5th 1899.

Un-numbered page. Sketch of what may be either an eolith or a palaeolith found in the flint drift opposite Vennell's shop [Vennell took over the grocery business from BH and later moved his business from BH's original shop to one closer to the George and Dragon on the main road through Ightham] and more geological section drawings showing where the telegraph post was placed. The section sketch is from north east to south west.

P.12. Continued from the previous page. This section diagram relates to the water company excavations which went through the main street to Bates Hill. BH notes the lower greensand rock (Hythe Beds) cut into by the men with large detached blocks found above and some large blocks of Oldbury stone and ironstone by Stone House. By the old Turnpike House, a deep green, clayey sand was noted. This feature was also expressed near Eaglehurst. There was a puzzling white layer exposed near Mill Lane? It was like a layer of chalk but dissimilar enough to puzzle BH.

On Sunday April 29th 1899 the morning dawned fine after a day of snow-storms, lightening and gales. BH spent his time sketching and dealt with his correspondence. He must have gone out because he mentions examining some sections, though he does not specify where but it must have been the Ash waterworks excavations.

Another section sketch of the Ash water works excavation.

P.13. Sunday April 17th 1899. The weather was threatening and BH stayed in sketching during the morning. Mrs. A...y visited at 11 and suggested that he should copy Grant Allen's paper for the local *Gazette*. He did it, finishing at 7.30. It rained from 3 and heavy storms ensued. Wednesday was fine with frost in the morning and thick ice. Dr Abbott from Tunbridge Wells visited at 11 and they spent a long time in the museum going on to the rocks afterwards to take photographs. BH accompanied him to Boro' Green [to catch the train].

Sunday 23rd April was a fine day that saw Mary visit her home in Chipstead, where she arrived at 11. BH must also have taken the train as he mentions Aylesford, Bob's Mount, East Dean and another, illegible destination. [Not the usual pellucid account of how he spent his day.]

Monday April 24th. A new gravel found opposite Cob Tree East. BH sent details to Mr Newton. Loose leaf, original letter from George Abbott, Honorary General Secretary of the Union of SE Scientific Societies, dated 24th April 1902. with drawings of lithic blades found in the brickearth at Tunbridge Wells. Percy Martin mentioned in relation to Bob's Hill in Fawkham where a 'worn specimen' was found. Sketches in ink and wash, of eoliths from Canterbury and Reading among other places.

P.14. Original letter from ET Newton, of the Geological Survey, dated April 25th 1899. He confirms that teeth sent by BH are those of an ox and that they may be Pleistocene or recent.

Another original letter from AE Salter, of 14 Amersham Road, New Cross, dated July 15th 1899. Apologises for not answering BH's letter sooner and asks to see the specimens to which BH referred in his letter. Says he would need to see them before he was able to express an opinion. Thinks it might be gault debris and discusses the geology behind the specimens. Suggests it might be opportune to discuss this at the next Geological Society meeting.

Sunday April 30th. A spring-like day which BH spent sketching and completing his Rochester plates. He was not very well that day. He spent the evening with Potter and Agnes, Mrs H and they all went to Oldbury. He later accompanied Potter to Buckwell and through to the railway stile where he noted some chert and some flint north of the stream.

Sunday May 7th BH spent his time copying his autobiography and sketching till 11.30 when he went to Fane Hill and met Percy Martin. They, together with Howard went to Sheet Hill. There was a cold, easterly breeze.

On Tuesday May 9th BH and Howard went to the reservoir at 9 where the men were moving the middle earth. He notes a wash of small flints below a 2ft 6 capping and has sketched the section illustrating this.

P.15. Entry from the previous page continues. BH examined carefully the material from the Folkestone bed wash, and the platform from which the top had been taken. The sand, he notes, stood out in relief. He found ammonites (from the gault) as well as other significant material. The next day, Wednesday, BH and Mrs Harrison went there again. BH enlisted the help of two of the men searching and they found one belamnite, another ammonite and some Oldbury stone. The following day BH sent Ian Dunn to search this area and he brought back more belamnites. He also noted the presence of a beaked shell, the name of which escaped him at the time of writing.

On Sunday May 14th 1899 BH took to his bed with quinsy [a throat infection]¹. Dr Walker was called and suggested continuous gargles, hot steaming and poulticing. This had an effect and BH noticed a change by 3 that day. Despite this, when Mr Kennard called at 1 they both took off at 2.30 to Rosewood, bringing back Gault spoil. Mr Newman visited at 3.30 and they chatted and spent some time in the museum. Mr Kennard stayed the night at Mrs Easts. It rained heavily overnight. BH got up at 9 and felt fine.

Wednesday May 17th. BH spent his time sketching the Rochester series. He later went with Mrs Harrison and Howard to St Clere.

On Sunday of that week, 21st May, BH continued to work on the Rochester series going later to Fane Hill and Birds with Allchin. In the evening he went again to the reservoir, which he describes as 'wet and unpleasant'. On Whit Monday the day dawned wet so BH stayed in sketching and corresponding. Later he started out to Wrotham but it rained so he turned back examining the gravel capping as he made his way home. He noted a section of Gault, exposed and ...

P.16. Entry from the previous page continues. ... capped with drift and a wash of small flints. The deposition occurred in a fan-like formation and the flints, he notes, were 'washed, battered and bruised'. He found two eoliths, which are sketched.

Wednesday May 24th was 'In..s' 80th birthday. BH had arranged to 'pilot about 60 Maidstonians over my area. Alas! Heavy rainstorms, wired at 1. Postponed owing to wet, very much disappointed. Allchin set to work at 4 and continued to 8 – gardening. Sent off case of exhibits to Rochester'. An original copy of a programme of music for the Rochester Naturalist's Club 21st Annual Conversazione, May 26th 1899,. BH got the Rochester train to Maidstone and, on arrival (in Rochester) arranged his specimens and gave his lecture at 11.

P.17. Entry from previous page continues with an account of how BH spent his post-lecture time. He met Mr Nottedge and visited Eastgate house, and walked through The Vines visiting Restoration House, Satis House, the Dean's garden, the cathedral, castle and the Mathematical School playground. He mentions being courteously received by Dean Hole and being taken around his garden to see many old, wild plants. He dined at The Bull (in Rochester High Street). In the evening he went to Godington, took refreshment and was back by 7.45. [There is a grand house in Godington, which may have been the reason for this visit.] BH comments on the

¹ Also known as a peritonsillar abscess of bacterial origin. Sufferers are often unable to fully open their mouth.

Conversazione, a 'full and (a) brilliant meeting'. Lists a few of those present, which included, Rob Bird, Vincent ..., Barker, Bennett and Whitaker.

On Sunday May 28th 1899, it was fine but cold with the wind coming from the north, north-east. BH went with his wife to see Tebbs and examined the gate entrance to Mr Turner's field. He notes an immense block of sandstone from a bank or dry wall. Mentions a tumulus, which he passed on his way to Seven Wents and Oldbury Hill. Once there he crossed the rampart on his way to Heron Shaw [where his very first Palaeolithic find was made], and home via the church. Heron Shaw was full of bluebells and campions. Potter visited at 3 bringing more Gault fossils from the reservoir, amongst which was a belamnite, split longitudinally and showing the central canal. He also had a cast of a shell that BH thought might be *Incinamus suleatis*. Potter seems to have made his way back to the reservoir and found many more specimens, among which was another beaked shell and many tiny pieces of quartz in red clay. There are three ink and wash illustrations of the reservoir excavation and the fossil specimens.

P.18. Blank.

P.19. Copy of an article from the *Illustrated London News* of March 9th 1861 detailing the meeting of the Ethnological Society. The article is illustrated with some of the stone tools found by Boucher de Crevacour de Perthes. BH comments that he sent a copy of this article and the illustrations to his brother Tom in Australia. The plates pasted in on this page were given to him on June 2nd 1899 by Mr. Ransom.

P.20. Sunday June 4th 1899 was hot, 80 in the shade. BH arranged some sketches, for Lubbock (Lord Avebury) in the morning and went out with Kennard and Mr and Mrs Hodd at 1.30. The following day he met Sir John and Miss Lubbock at the entrance to Fishponds. They walked to Seven Wents and enjoyed the views from there. From there they walked to Ightham Knoll, which they carefully examined. Back afterwards to Oldbury and the rock shelters. They exited via the slippery path on Mount Pleasant. They lunched and inspected the collection and, at 2.30 they took Barber's trap to the Pilgrim's Road, where BH notes that the Belladonna was in flower. Then on to Knockmill where Lord Avebury spent time examining the pit. They continued to meander in the countryside around Knockmill, viewing Well Hill in the distance. They arrived home at 5. BH spied some tertiary sand exposed by rabbit cryoturbation south east of the reservoir by a gap in the hedge. BH describes it as a 'pleasant and profitable day'.

P.21. June the 8th 1899 dawned fine though cold. BH took a party of 35 from Maidstone [those previously cancelled on account of the weather] around his patch. He met them from the train and noted that many were on bikes. They had tea at Mrs Macfarlane's and then went on to Jim Bassett's and up to the rock shelters and Mount Pleasant. BH did not arrive home till 8.30. The group seems to have been pleased with the tour. He read his paper to this gathering but it was somewhat curtailed owing to thunder and a gale from the north east. He recounts a conversation he had with a lady who talked to him about Kits Coty. Her Father had asked a labourer working on or near this site, what he thought its purpose might be. The man replied that it commemorated a big battle. When asked between whom this battle might have been fought, he replied 'well Sir, it were between the Deans and the Saxtins Sir'. [I am

unable to believe that BH recorded this for any other reason that it was slightly amusing.]

On Thursday 8th June Mr Bennett called at 12.30, dined and took tea with BH and Mrs Harrison. They spent hours in the museum and looked at a 'very very rude implement from 470 OD'. After tea BH took Howard and Mr Casey to the rock shelters, both were pleased with the trip. BH notes that Mr Bennett who had just retired from the Geological Survey and knew Blackmore of Salisbury, He had been named in the work of Sir John Evans as the finder of two implements near Pewsey in 1869.

Sunday 11th June, BH walked early as he was expecting Abbott to visit. Mentions that Ted was said to be writing 'The Eolithic Philosophy'. Mr and Mrs G... visited at 11.30. In the evening BH went to Patch Grove and examined the chert spreads. He met some of his friends at the railway stile and remarks how hot it was.

P.22. 'The Eolithic Philosophy' as the summation of BH's thoughts about eoliths and what they represented, had been suggested in the footnotes of the meeting of the South East Union Scientific Society. BH quotes from one of Sir John Evans's letters in which he says of eoliths 'It takes some imagination to picture a people with special appliances for rubbing their feet but none for the ordinary purposes of life... (Sir John Evans letter June 7th 1899)'. This poem is in Harrison of Ightham, 1928 p.241.

P.23. Conclusion of 'The Eolithic Philosophy', as written by Edward Harrison 11th June 1899. BH mentions *The Life of Prestwich* which he thinks he will like very much.

Mr Casey and BH to Fairlawn gardens to see the new conservatory palms and some other objects, including the Venus de Capoline. He notes their electric lamps.

He quotes an extract from Wallace entitled 'Miracles and Medium Spiritualism: Do you believe? I have no belief, true science has none. True science questions all things, and takes nothing on credit. It knows but three states of mind – denial, conviction? and the vast interval between the two, which is not belief, but the suspension of judgment'.

Sunday June 18th 1899. The close, hot weather kept BH in, sketching for one of Newton's friends, Mr Loyd, the Galley Hill observer. In the evening however, he walked to Exedown with Mr and Mrs Casey. Others joined them along the way. He mentions seeing a Bee Orchid near the station, just below the bank near the larch trees.

P.24. On June 20th 1899, Dr and Mrs Tylor arrived despite the very heavy rain. They accompanied BH to his museum. BH records Tylor's encouraging remarks on entering the sanctum 'Oh, this is alright'. BH says: 'It seemed unreal to have a specialist accepting and blossoming into admiration and saying "everybody is coming round. Even Evans accepts now. So am I". He remarked "I was President at the meeting of the Anthro Society in 1891 and have never seen you since. Sir Joseph Prestwich told me than that Evans and Boyd Dawkins arguments were silly". BH notes Tylor's similar remarks to de Barri Crawshay. Tylor arranged to visit BH once

more, the following day. Sketches of pointed eoliths with which Dr Tylor drew comparison with the Tasmanian Duck Bill type.

P.25. Another of Edwards, poems about the nature of Wealden Man. BH's writing is, as so often the case when he writes about matters that stir his emotions, illegible. It goes:

Before todays earth sculpture,
And our present rivers ran,
Our area was invaded by good old Plateau man,
Whose early home was Wealden dome (oh! Sad was his condition)
Spurred on by fate to emigrate he moved to our position,
Then sing in praise of Plateau Man,
So low and rude, yet free,
Of Britains race of one be first,
A Wealden Man was he
In later days the ice age approached with might and main,
The relics of this past stage on our hilltops remain,
Entombed in chalk high Plateau
So rolled and stained and rude,
Contrasted with the later pals,
Thin shape and working crude.
Then sing the praise of Plateau man
An early worker he,
Was long ago yet I will show,
A Wealden Man was he.
For in those very early days
The chalk it then extended,
Much further south over Greensand scarp and perhaps in Sussex
ended.
Then was man on solid land,
When only clouds and sky
Long since removed by ice and flood,
To picture it I try.
Then sing in praise of Plateau Man,
A rude old workman he,
Although in Kent he manhood spent
Yet Wealden man was he.
For though these ancient relics,
In Kentish field are found,
Yet we can trace this early race,
To earlier Wealden ground,
Upon the chalk high Plateau at 760 OD...

P.26. Poem from previous page continued:

David from vanished southern land his lowly tools we see.
Then sing in praise of Plateau Man, and the water company,
By soil removed tis plainly proved No man of Kent was he

For relics rare, beyond compare from older lands derived,
Lie here in place of this old race to tell us how he thrived.
And een today, entombed in clay beneath the southern drift
The tomb remains, tis now made plain, with which our race made
shift XX.
Then sing in praise of Plateau Man,
Like bushmen, low but free,
In later Palaeolithic stage
A man of Kent was he’.

Below this BH has given a key. ‘X = Mid Kent Water Company, XX = make shift tools, as designated by Worthington Smith: XXX See paper on Bushman tools’ though none of this is to be found in the text of this volume.

June 21st 1899. Dr Tylor arrived at 12 and went to the hill fort. He took the old road so as to see the configuration and the geology. Then on to Terry’s Lodge and the reservoir. Also via St. Clere. It was very hot but the conditions were perfect on the hill tops. On to Poll Hill, BH states that ‘Pol’ is Welsh for hill. Mentions Grant Allen, who he says is ‘a brilliant writer’, though unreliable. The following remark suggests that Grant Allen and Frazer (he of *The Golden Bough*) generalized too freely. Tylor says about this he has no complaints since it shows a healthy vitality.

P.27. Continued from the previous page. Tylor then chatted about his brother, Alfred Tylor and his work on the pluvial period. This work, though not totally accepted at that time, was gaining more attention. They talked about Lubbock and Wallace, the latter who was noted to be getting very old, though without loss of interest in many aspects of life.

There follows a copy of the President, FW Rudler, of the Anthropological Institute’s address of 1899. This address mentions the year (1891/2) in which Joseph Prestwich called eoliths to the attention of the institute. BH is mentioned as the finder of these objects. Mention is also made of the ‘animated discussion’ that followed these finds. William Cunnington’s paper, read the previous year at a meeting of the Geological Society and suggesting a great age for these stones, is referred to, respectfully. The paper indicates that their age is attested first by the geological strata in which they were found, that is the Southern drift and second by the crude nature of the chipping. Cunnington, it is noted in this address, regarded eoliths as of Palaeolithic age.

P.28. The entry from the previous page continues: The fact that Cunnington believed the chippings on these objects to be natural is acknowledged in the Journal *Natural Science*. The reply to Cunnington’s arguments by the Rev Ashington Bullen and Lewis Abbott are recorded in the same journal in February. The paper by Professor of geology, McKenny Hughes, is said to deal critically with the issue of eolith authenticity. He suggests that there were no man-made tools earlier than palaeoliths. Here the writer suggests that, whilst eoliths show little by way of, what he refers to as ‘design’ he maintains that they were actually chosen because of their utilitarian shape in the first place [implying that early ‘man’ picked up stones that would serve his purposes as they were, without significant, perhaps any, modification]. Dr Kenny-Hughes said that the evidence did not support the contention that any stone tools older than palaeoliths had been discovered. He then went on to say that what was

referred to as 'design' was actually the process of the selection of naturally occurring stone tools of utility not in their manufacture.

Dr Henry Hicks, who had only recently retired from the Presidency of the Geological Society, then delivered a paper about the evidence of human antiquity in the glaciated areas of Britain from the 'ossiferous caves'. His evidence came from the Clwyd district and suggested human occupation in a pre-glacial time. There followed a discussion of the caves and their taphonomy, including the presence of extinct mammalian remains, introduced either before any of the associated glacial deposits or shortly after their deposition, of that allowed Hicks to reach this conclusion, though there follows a counter-argument which maintained that man's presence during interglacial conditions could not be ruled out.

P.29. The entry from the previous page continues. Here the topic shifts from consideration of Tertiary Man to that of Palaeolithic Man. There is reference to the arguments for the study of geology put forward by the Geologists's Association and Mr EJ Newton's address to that organisation given on his relinquishing the presidency, in which he expresses a caution that made him recoil from acknowledging the existence of Man during the Tertiary. He concluded that the human relics thus far identified, all belonged to the Pleistocene. He believed that the Galley Hill skeleton to be 'the most recent human relic yet unearthed in Britain in this country'. Because of Britain's close proximity to the 'western seas' he expected to find little 'wind-wafted desert dust but it is of extreme interest to find the relics of Steppe fauna even in Britain'. Newton's examination of the Ightham fissure fauna, as detailed by Lewis Abbott [at that time Newton was unaware that BH was the discoverer of the Basted Fissure] showed that in the south east of England mammalian fauna of arctic origin existed, such as the Saiga antelope, thus confirming ice-age conditions. These, and other finds, confirmed the early notion proposed by Clement Reid that such creatures once roamed the landscape of Britain. This view was, at the time of the lecture, commonly received wisdom.

P.30. Entry from the previous page continues: According to Mr JE Man, of Cambridge, a glacial period was followed by one of Steppe conditions in turn followed by what is described as 'a frost period'. Man argued that the steppe, or sub-arctic period coincided with the Palaeolithic period during which man existed, at least this was suggested that this was the case in western Europe. A humid climate, that coincided with the growth of a wooded landscape, is thought to have followed the steppe period and the Neolithic is seen as coinciding with the 'frost period'.²

Sketch in pencil/ink, of a palaeolith found on June 24th 1899 by H Evans at the top of Home Field.

Sunday June 25 1899 was very close so BH got on with his correspondence though later met up with Percy Martin at 1. Mr Withers the artist called in on him at 9.40 and they chatted for over an hour. He knew Grant Allen well having lived next door to him in Dorking for three years. BH sent a birthday letter to Agnes.

² What would now be described as the Younger Dryas between the last Upper Palaeolithic culture in Britain and the beginning of the Mesolithic

P.31. Copy of a letter from Worthington G Smith dated 25th June 1899:

Thank you for the note enclosing sketches 'sweat stones'. If genuine one ought to find them among relics of a later date, as survivals – I don't think I should much like to be scraped by such objects; but Eolithic Man might have been very hairy and the rounded smooth parts would have done well for ending the career of parasites. I will bear the form in mind and look for anything of the kind. The chipping is on weakest part of the broken stone, where it would be very liable to come by accident. It is a subject I have not specially studied. No doubt early man sometimes sweated a good deal, as when chased by famished carnivorous animals, but whether he had sweat stones always at hand is more than I know. Dr. Tylor would know... I have seen the Anth journal but have not seen Professor Hughes' paper.

Another copy of a letter, this time from Alfred Russel Wallace. Dated June 26th 1899, it was written in his home of Parkstone, in Dorset: '... Thanks for your letter. I congratulate you on the full recognition of your long-continued labours in the cause of science. It is well deserved. Everything comes to him who waits and works. Yours very sincerely... ARW'.

BH writes:

After receiving this letter I turned to Wallace's book "Miracles" and at page 29 I find a turn down and so copy: "It is time that the derisive and unexamining incredulity which has hitherto existed should give way to a less degenerate and more philosophical sport, or history will again have to read the melancholy spectacle of men, who should have known better, assuming to limit discovery of new (facts) in the universe, and deciding without investigation whether other men's observations are true or false".

P.32. An entry about parasites and Prestwich's interest in them. A short entry about a lady who, asked by Laurence Sterne if she had read *Tristram Shandy* replied that she had not and thought it unsuitable for her to do so. Sterne replies that she is mistaken.

On July 1st BH received a letter from Dr Tylor asking to buy a whole set of 60 eoliths. He seems to have sent them off immediately. The following day, Sunday, he started getting ready a large set (of eoliths) and then walked to Bay Shaw where he made two finds. The weather was cold and windy enough for him to light a fire on his return. He spent the evening sketching and then went to visit Turner in his new house in Oaklands.

Original letter from Worthington G. Smith. Dated 14th June 1899:

... I return the slips with thanks. I had not previously seen them so I have now read them with interest. I have been rather anxious about you for when you last wrote you were ill. I suppose you must now be much better and I am glad of it. "Body Stones" seem curious. I do not remember having heard of such tools as stone foot rubbers before. I

have not done anything with Pal subjects, the stones are very monotonous; one gets greater variety with other subjects. I should like to unearth some human bones of Pal age. Yours faithfully, WG Smith.

P.33. Another original Worthington Smith letter dated 6th July 1899:

... I have been unable to write before being overworked and having to stop in London whence I retd last night and am up to my ears again today. As you request a reply as to the two stones, my belief is that neither show and human work; the smaller one to me is nothing; and the larger, if worked by human hands; and to this I say distinctly 'no' is not old but of later Palaeolithic time. I noticed yesterday at the British Museum, South Kensington, that some of your stones are exh(ibited), a bequest from Sir Joseph Prestwich. One or two seem to me to show human work, but not of the oldest pal(eolithic) sort. The others to me are naturally broken flints of different ages. I enclose your slip – also a photo. Do not return the letter, you will see what it is. Yours faithfully WG Smith.

Another original of the letter transcribed on p. 31.

P.34. Saturday July 9th 1899 saw BH and Mr Bird attend the Rochester Naturalists meeting at 5.45 that BH describes as 'charming'. He notes the flint flakes on display found in a cave. He sketches part of one of these highly polished flints. On Sunday July 10th BH had a 'restful hammocky day' reading the 'Lady of the Lake'. Kennard visited at 3 and in the evening Miss B... and Mrs H(arrison) to St Clere along the Pilgrims Road. It was a delightful walk and the view from Fane Hill towards Fen Pond was especially lovely.

P.35. Newspaper clipping of cricketing results. June 10th 1899 Mr Thompson visited. His visit connects to the results of the cricket. On June 15th Mr Darbishire and Robert Dunkenfield BA, FSA of Manchester visited at around mid-day and stayed till four. Mr D bought 4 sets of eoliths including one of body stones and hollow scrapers, with which he was very pleased.

Sunday 16th July. BH sketching sets till 9.45 when he left for the station to meet Mr Abbott and Dr Alan Sturge. They took the trap to Vigo, where they refreshed themselves and then went on to Fairseat and Stanstead. Home at 3. The day was hot with some dark clouds but no rain. The visitors caught the 5.59 train. BH describes the day as 'a grand turn'. Abbot became very interested in gault fossils and BH notes that the white fragment he [Abbott] pronounced turned to be the spire of a crag shell. Dr Darbishire wrote to BH from his London home thanking him for the day's outing and saying how much he had enjoyed it. He also had a museum and seems to have bought some eoliths for it.

P.36. Darbishire's letter from the previous page continues: he notes that some of BH's specimens had been the subject of research by the British Association, though this had not been continued. He offers to pay for all these specimens, or BH's drawings of them, if they could be spared.

Copy of a note by Bell [Montgamery] on Smith Woodward's book in which he assigns Man, in all probability to the Pliocene, noted to be an important conclusion by BH.

On 21st June BH makes a short entry about Dr Tylor and how, when he presented examples [of eoliths] Dr Tylor moved in his favour.

Copy of Blackmore's thoughts on Dewlish and the *Elephas meridionalis*. This extract contains reference to eoliths in the same gravels from which megafaunal remains had been extracted. Another entry that appears to be from the work of another person 'working at the other end of the chain and collecting the eolithic tools which were made by the river drift people'.

P.37. Entry from the previous page continues. These stones are noted to have been chipped rather than 'hacked as by the older people'. Also noted is the fact that such tools were found in the highest, and therefore the oldest, gravels of the valley. These, later, tools are said to be useful 'in confounding the sceptics' and prove the continuity of man from Pliocene times to the River Drift and cave times and even to modern Esquimaux peoples.³

Opposition to this view is seen as crumbling. Letter from Anning or 'Boojah' in BH's cryptic language. It goes: '... Have you heard anything about yourself lately? I have heard on the strict QT some good news, but am not at liberty to say anything about it. Anyhow I think I am justified in saying how glad we are and hope to be among the first to congratulate you which we both do most heartily. I hope you may live many years to enjoy it...'

On Sunday 23rd July there were prolonged thunderstorms over several nights. The heat had been tropical. BH spent much time sketching. He went one evening to Basted.

P.38. Letter from Abbott, dated 25th July 1899. In it he asks BH to look at some Gault specimens. He suggests geological mechanisms by which the fossils reached their present position and suggests that the deposit in which the specimens were found was about the age of the Crag of East Anglia. He concludes that it all fitted nicely with the evidence he had been collecting and the history of the plateau deposits.

Loose leaf with Edward Harrison's writing on one side about legal matters and a sketch of a Palaeolith by him on the other. Another sketch, this time in ink and wash, of the same specimen. It is from Court Lodge home field and was found on July 29th. It may have been sent to Sir John Evans.

³ This would have been most welcomed by BH whose sketchbooks particularly, demonstrate his efforts to prove the evolution of stone tools from the eolithic to the palaeolithic. It explains why in so many of his eolith collections there are genuine palaeolithic stone tools which he would have seen as evolutionary forms bridging the gap between Tertiary and River drift man.

P.39. More sketches in ink and wash of two more palaeoliths, one from north Ash and the other from Oldbury Farm, both found on August 6th 1899 by Evans and Bassett respectively.

On Sunday July 30th the temperature was very warm. BH worked from 4.30 am till the evening of that day, sketching sets for Mr Darbishire. The following Sunday, 6th August, was a Bank Holiday and there were heavy thunderstorms. The world seemed 'refreshed' by this occurrence and BH set off at 6.45. He saw a partridge and her young in the road as well as lapwings, rabbits, finches. He walked/rode in the trap or fly, as far as Fawkham, taking in many of the usual places on his way there. He was home again by 2.15 where Kennard and his wife were waiting for him. In the evening they drove via Seal to Kemsing and arrived home, via St Clere, at 8. He notes the magnificence of the crops and the hops. A tank had been dug at Ash, to the right of Ryan's house, about 10 feet deep it showed a top drift of flint for about 2.1/2 feet and then Tertiary sand. Sketch of same.

P. 40. Bank Holiday, 7th August 1889, was a quiet day. Stanley Casey dropped in leaving at 5.30.

Copy of a letter from Mr Bell, dated 7th August 1899. The letter informs BH that he (Bell) received a letter from Mr Harrison, Assistant Secretary of the Royal Society in which he is informed of the decision of the RS to award BH an annuity of twenty five pounds. Whitaker and Bell jointly made the application. He tells BH that this success does not represent the end of his efforts on BH's behalf, the details of which he promises to inform BH on a future occasion.

Sketch of a pointed palaeolith from Robsacks, close to the path found by Allchin on August 8th 1899.

P.41. Sunday August 13th 1899 saw yet another hot day dawn. BH went to Rosewood at 9.30. The glare of the sun and the heat almost overcame him. At 3.30 he met Abbott and later, at 6.10 he met Mr Hodd and Miss Shipwright. Home by 8.30. At 9.30 he went to the station and saw many motors on his way there. By Thursday the temperature had reached 90 in the shade and there was a thunderstorm.

Newspaper review of Tylor's *Savages, Ancient and Modern*. Edward Harrison has dated this 18th January 1892.

P.42. Sunday 10th August 1899 dawned fine and BH met Mr Strange at 9.30. They were joined by Percy Martin at 11. Mr Strange left at 11.30. BH and Percy made their way to Bayshaw. Kennard arrived at 4. In the evening Mr P and Miss Beard went to Roseview. BH made his way home in the moonlight. He had found an ammonite, more Gault evidence.

The following entry concerns body stones, dated August 24th 1899. Mentioned is a gentleman from Freiburg accompanied by a lady from St Leonards. This much-travelled gentleman chanced to be in Maidstone and it was an interest in flints that brought him to Ightham. Conversation turned to whether or not the natives in lands that he had lived in, used stones to rub their feet with. The answer was 'yes, a daily custom...'. BH showed him a plate of a body stone and the gentleman confirmed the

type as accurate. Sweat stones are also mentioned and confirmed as a type of stone tool used by natives.

P.43. The entry from the previous page continues: Oiling the body and removing the excess with stones was also discussed. This latter was said to act against the flies and give rise to 'a nice refreshing feel'. The gentleman was very little interested in palaeolithic stone tools, being more concerned with eoliths.

The following day was hot and sultry despite which Ben went with Percy Martin to Highfield and West Bank Field.

List of points, 11 in all, about human evolution covering the chronology, different stages sites at which evidence occurs. They are:

- 1) The age of pale man was of long duration
- 2) Several stages may be recognised
- 3) The earliest occurs on the North Downs and in erratic relics elsewhere
- 4) The second occurs on high screes and levels
- 5) Both these stages mark systems of drainage now non-existent
- 6) The third is the river valley epoch
- 7) The last stage of the series stands alone but well-developed in the London area
- 8) The Boulder clay epoch is anterior to the third perhaps to the second of these periods
- 9) Its relation to the first is adhere? Sub-judice
- 10) All the stages were anterior to the final disappearance of ice conditions
- 11) A subsidence isolated Britain after which it was untended by man

P.44. Copy of a letter from Rupert Jones, dated August 26th 1889:

'Your selection of examples of one form of old implements is very good. As there are eight forms mentioned by Sir Joseph and yourself, it would be well to keep to that arrangement. But 8 times 19 is 152, a larger number! 8 times 12 would be sufficient. It is difficult to fix names for these forms. At all events, do you think you can get 12 of each of the chipped forms and let the sets of outlines speak for themselves, rather than the introduction of ?... forms. I am glad to see Mr. Cunnington's 784 falls onto its place next to 464. Is 464 a fixed and permanent exhibition of the Maidstone Museum – or only a temporary lodger there? Yours truly, T Rupert Jones.'

Entry noting the death of Lady Prestwich on August 31st 1899. Communication from Bell and Loveland to that effect.

Sunday September 3rd was hot and BH met the Hodds. They went to St Clere and then to Blackberry Wood and home via Birches. Nurse Rigby accompanied them. Sunday 10th September was, by contrast, rather cold but Nurse Rigby, BH and Mr and Mrs Self went to St Clere via Yaldham. They saw the great meadow near Colonel James' toll where there were blackberries. In the evening BH went to High Field with Mr Potter who dropped in with his children.

P.45. Copy of the British Association notes of September 13th 1899. These are about eolith 464 and the edition is Vol XLV plate X1. The comments about this eolith being worked and very old must have pleased BH. Repeating them also must have been enjoyable for him. The time when this eolith was shown to Joseph Prestwich is recorded with evident delight. BH records the thoughts of an, unnamed, expert who says ‘...certainly worked and very old but the height is revolutionary.’ Number 464 is recorded as having been placed on display in Maidstone Museum. BH notes that the large specimen sketched separately was found on the same gravel patch [as 464].

P.46. On September 13th BH visited Crowslands. Newspaper clipping about a lecture given by Sir Michael Foster on 19th century science. A quote from Tennyson’s, Locksley Hall as well as mention of other Tennyson poems.

An entry about ‘Motor Spill’. Of which there had been several in and around Ightham.

Copy of a long letter from Kennard, date September 17th 1899 in which he tells BH about his invitation, as a member of the Geological Association, to Burlington House, where he met some Belgian geologists. He took, as requested a series of flints, including some eoliths, the pick of his collection.

P. 47. Entry from the previous page continues. Kennard comments that the Belgians are ‘all nice fellows...and they all believe in them, especially M, Rutot’. He reminds BH that Rutot found eoliths in Belgium in large numbers, and has published his findings, a copy of which he gave to Percy Martin. Percy was there too with a collection of flints. He tacked Sir John Evans on the subject of eolith authenticity and Sir John replied ‘may be, may not be...’. Sir John was then asked to tell the difference between a flake from Wickham and a pal from the Kent Downs. He clearly wished to extricate himself and gave a fudged answer about what was worked and what was not. Rutot then also challenged Sir John who then left, after telling Rutot he did not believe in eoliths. Kennard tells BH he would have enjoyed the ‘triumph’ [of Rutot over Sir John]. Advises BH to ask Percy Martin to give an account of this exchange. Sir John is referred to as ‘the Almighty of Nash Mills’. Kennard says he wrote a poem of victory!

P.48. Sunday September 17th was a fine day. Dr Conn visited at 3.30 in Obam’s trap and they went to the reservoir and Crowslands at 4.30. Mrs Harrison returned in the trap whilst they examined the patch. From there BH and Conn went on to Drain Farm and Heaverham. BH then accompanied Dr Conn to the station.

A copy of a letter from Rupert Jones, dated September 19th 1899:

‘... Your specimens and sketches were duly exhibited today and carefully examined by many. I was called to speak after the Reid ...’s paper on stone implements and so did see John Evans and Mr. Allen Browne. But Sir John Evans, Professor Boyd Dawkins and others spoke against the artificial character of the specimens – and the general feeling was in that direction. I think that one or two perhaps were inclined to alter their opinion in our favour. I spoke warmly against Sir

John and co. It was stated that in Ireland many stones are found in certain beds of gravel that compose all the eolithic forms, in a natural state? And so it was thought that nothing can be decided until everybody has seen all and every such gravel! Some clear-headed men recognised the very definite character of some of your specimens, and this is a great deal. Tomorrow I will get to the packing up of the specimens and sketches and hope they will get safe to you. I must go tomorrow. It is beginning to rain and my work is pretty well done here... PS some very earnest complimentary observations on your long perseverance were made. Yours very truly, Rupert Jones'

P.49. Clipping of the above detailing speakers and topics. Quote of Huxley's about working within one's ability as a strength and going beyond this a weakness.

Sunday September 24th cold day. BH sketched from 6 am till 9 am. Met Mr Griffin and some of his friends and they viewed one of Darwin's letters. They then went to the fissure via the fields and then on to other sites. They inspected the Roman remains at Plaxtol, Mrs Martins, including the Minerva. On to the Mote and then back via Rosewood, Oldbury and the rock shelters. BH saw his friends to the station at 5.59 and described the day as 'red letter'.

Copy of a letter from Flinders Petrie, dated 23rd September 1899 from 10 East Road, Hampstead NW:

'... I was very sorry to hear the story as I think, quite unjustifiable, remarks of Sir John Evans about the eolithic flints at the Dover meeting. There the opportunity of looking over the specimens you exhibited there and it seemed to me

P.50 Continued from the previous page:

the strongest argument had not been put forward, I would state it thus: A peculiar and definite type is seen in these flints. A deep concave curve chip round the inside but more chipped on the flat faces and usually ending in a point. Such a type does not occur by chance in other periods and therefore cannot be accidental or natural. Such a type shows strong proof of being artificial by being chipped always on the curve and not on the flat face. Now the best examples on any (of the) surface flints and are scoffed at by Evans and Dawkins as being of later age. But the type demonstrated by the first surface specimens is proved to be eolithic by one or two of the marked split specimens. These, though not so fine, are yet unmistakably of the peculiar type. Pardon my troubling you with the way the evidence appears to me; but it is often difficult for anyone to whom the facts have gradually grown up to be able to see how they appear when presented as a whole to another mind. Had the discussion been in a section when I was known more I should have said this at the meeting. Would you care to have a fine palaeolith from Egypt? I pick up many flakes there. Left exposed ever since they were worked. Yours very truly Wm Flinders Petrie.'

October 1st 1899 was very wet BH visited by his ‘drenched friend’ Dr Conn at 3. They went off to Styants Bottom. October 8th also wet but this did not stop BH going to Oakfield where he noted the autumn tints.

P.51. October 15th was the perfect cold and refreshing day BH, Agnes and Ted went to St Clere at 9.15 and from there to Knockmill, Birches and the reservoir. Home at 1, After which, at 2.30, BH and the others walked to St Lawrence Church in half an hour. Dr Conn was at home and BH accompanied him to the station.

17th October John Markland called bringing with him some Roman finds from Boro’ Green sand pit. These were sent to Payne (Guildhall Museum, Rochester). 24th/25th calendar dates. Grant Allen died 25th October 1899.

P.52. newspaper and journal clippings about Grant Allen.

P.53. More clippings about Grant Allen.

P.54. Yet more clippings about Grant Allen’s life and death.

Sketch of an implement from the lowest level of Bay Shaw, given to Montgomerie Bell. It had been previously sent it to Sir John Evans, who wrote: ‘Thanks for your parcel. The large implement from Maplescombe (Bay Shaw)⁴ is very interesting. The type is what the French Archaeologists would assign to the Mousterian, whereas the specimen is probably older than either St Acheul or Chelles. The Fawkham impt is also indisputable’.

P.55. Another clipping about Grant Allen.

P.56. More clippings about Grant Allen.

Sunday October 29th 1899. A dull start to the day but BH went out to the fissure (Basted) at 11.30. He ascended ladders and seems to have been quite acrobatic in his activity there. Whilst doing this he spotted a plant that engaged his interest, *Veronica bauxbamii*⁵. He regarded it as a memorable find.

P.57. Sunday evening October 29th. BH spent time rooting out copies of *Cornhill* to read again Grant Allen’s paper. Mrs Harrison took a copy to read an article, in poetic form, entitled ‘The Tryst’ of which BH copied part on this page.

P.58. Wednesday 1st November 1899 was a brilliant, cloudless day. BH in company with Mrs Harrison and some friends, walked to Seven Wents, crossing the road to Fish Pond Knoll and on to St Lawrence Church where, the previous day, Frank Hudson had been interred. BH comments on the wreaths on show. He was not in the mood for working following this relaxing and enjoyable walk. The barometer was

⁴ Maplescombe and Bay Shaw are two unrelated sites separated by several miles and in different locations

⁵ Also known as *Veronica persica* *poir*, this plant was first identified in the British Isles in 1825, being known previously from North America and East Asia where it is regarded as a weed.

sinking. The few very nice days that followed were superseded by a hurricane and thunderstorms.

Sunday November 5th was spent sketching. Ian Slade died. The Busty was running in full spate, justifying its old name.

More articles about Grant Allen. Original letter from Mrs Grant Allen thanking BH for his letter of sympathy at the death of Grant.

P.59. Parody of the poem 'Truthful James' by Bret Harte (itself a parody of a poem by Algernon Swinburne). Signed, 'Ighthamite'.

Copy of a letter from Bell, thanking BH for his parcel of stones, especially that from Bay Shaw, sketched on a previous page:

'I received your box with gratitude. The fine "succession" specimen I yesterday gave to the museum, somewhat reluctantly, but it was received as a welcome addition there both by Dr Tylor and by H(enry) Balfour. They are very glad to have it. Reid Moir's stone tools - contemporary with the Moa - a great extinct bird, have lately been found in New Zealand. They must have been made by the people when the Maoris exterminated? And resemble the tools found in Tasmania. Man is a cruel animal. He kills his own species in New Zealand and elsewhere and we think has done for a very long time.'

Sunday November 12th was a fine day and BH set off for Potter's at 9, searching the 400 foot levels north of the trackway, on his journey there. He repeated his searches at this level as he approached Yaldham. He noted some 'good examples' as well as a 'good rude', which was near the new house by the hop garden. He must have gone home, though he does not say so, because at 11.30 Percy Martin arrived there bringing with him some choice spoil from Aylesford as well as Mr Rutot's book. Dr Conn dropped in at 2 and BH went with him to the station. He got back at 5.30 to find Mr and Mrs Anning waiting for him. The text then reverts to detailing the time spent out earlier that day and notes how much Oldbury stone lay scattered around near Yaldham and how Dr Conn had found a lizard's skull.

P.60. Newspaper clipping of the first of a series of biographical sketches of famous people, beginning with Lord Avebury. Calendar date of November 19th 1899.

P.61. Sunday November 19th 1899. BH, Mrs Harrison and Gordon Trowse took the train to Otford. From there they ascended The Mount where they found many white flakes. From there on to Wick patch where many rudes were found as well as Tertiary pebbles. Found an example of *Cyrena cuniformis*⁶ in the sandstone rock. They were refreshed at the Rising Sun and were home by 1.30. Comments on the variety of birds he saw whilst out. Specimens of the sandstone block he saw were full of fossils

⁶ A lamellibranch, *Cyrena cuniformis*, is found in the Woolwich beds. It is a freshwater invertebrate found where a river met the Eocene sea in the warm times of the Tertiary

More talk of 'rude' implements. Sketched are 8 eoliths, found during a 15 minute search.

P.62. Section drawing of water works at Terry's Lodge. Done from memory. BH remarks that he found two rudely worked flints from a pipe and rubble drift. Small sketch of what appears to be a palaeolith.

Copy of a letter to Mr James, the Curator of Maidstone Museum, dated November 24th 1899:

'... Thank you for your letter, would that it had been sent before – or rather the facts made known to me long since. I leave with the museum a thoroughly representative series. Prestwich's selections and Pit series to represent the eoliths. The Medway series, half the rock shelters, half the hill gravels, the Milton Street representing the Thames 100 ft as referred to by Prestwich and illustrated in his sections, and as dug since type specimens by your wish as well as a series to illustrate Prestwich's later paper. I am expecting Sir Jon Lubbock daily...'

P.63. Drawing of a large palaeolith, pencil. Besides it, in Edward's handwriting is this: 'I took this giant to BH to sketch. He told me he had found Gault fossils on top of the chalk in a wash at 800 feet OD. This must have been north of Westerham at be...? Hill or to the west of it as no other 800 in SE England in Kent and Surrey'. Dated 30.6.24. On the drawing is written 'Hampshire King'.⁷

Mr Crawshay visited on the 23rd November bringing the giant specimen referred to from Southampton. The James letter from the previous page continues:

'and shall make it a point to state my case. If Sir John in a time of hurry and excitement as on the day of the meeting used the words I feel sure that he would be the first to admit when the case is fairly represented by the specimens... to be the first to admit "truly representative". If the museum authorities are dissatisfied I am willing to take all back and call on Sir John as mediator but I claim to speak for myself and state case fully and fairly...'

P.64. Letter from the previous page concludes:

I enclose his letter as proof, please return....'

Copy of a letter from Lord Avebury, dated 22nd November 1899:

'... I return the specimen which is of course quite unmistakable. As regards the others I cannot for the moment lay my hands on them. We have a building and many of our things are put away. If you come upon anything specially interesting in the new excavations, I shall be glad to run over and have a look at it....'

⁷ This was indeed a large palaeolith, the drawing measuring 21 by 15 centimeters and was found in or near Southampton.

Copy of a letter from Mr. James, Maidstone Museum:

‘I have hesitated to comply with your request to return the series known I think, as the British Association Oxford set, because Mr Bensted and Mr Bridge are of the opinion that to be a fully representative series one half of the series should be included as has been done with the other series. Sir John Lubbock at Bromley also expressed the same view to Mr Bridge according to what the latter said. Now what is to be done. They say the subscribers will expect it, I know the Arch(aeological) S(ociet)y. You would doubtless prefer to see them yourself. Again I ask what is to be done. Yours faithfully FV James.’

P.65. Sunday November 26th 1899 was a fine, mild day. The sun broke though after 10 days absence. BH went to Exedown with Mrs Harrison and notes that the water sections had been filled in. On to Terry’s Lodge house and farm. BH counted 64 bird’s nests. Dr and Mrs Conn and Colonel Underwood called at 12.30 en route to Sevenoaks. BH spent the evening reading the life of Hugh Strickland. Horace joined them for supper.

November 29th 1898 was ‘A red-letter day’. The morning was bright and BH set off to see the Exedown excavations. He says they arrived ‘in the nick of time’ as the workmen had just reached the ochreous gravels at 3 feet where they found many worked stones. He hesitated to accept them all but notes that some typical specimens emerged. He asked the foreman if one man could dig deeper and, on this being done, noted the emergence of even more eoliths. He arrived back at 11.15 and sent a wire to Sir John Lubbock who came later that day by train. The digging started again at 2 and BH met Mr Bennett at Four Wents who had been walking in Kemsing, Drain, Knockhill and Crowslands. They went back to the excavations together. Mrs Harrison and Mrs Ince came to meet them, also counting bird’s nests on their way. They counted 62.

P.66. Drawings of eoliths from the Exedown excavations as well as some from Prestwich’s papers.

P.67. More eolith drawings from the water works site at Terry’s Lodge.

P.68. More eoliths drawings from the water works site at Terry’s Lodge

P.69. More eolith drawings from the water works excavations at Terry’s Lodge. Two have arrows pointing at flake scars, which, it is noted, Cunnington refers to as: ‘The shaved edge of accumulated pressure, by glaciers as he says!!!’

P.70. Sunday December 3rd 1899. BH went to Terry’s Lodge excavation and home again via Wrotham. He and Mrs Harrison counted 35 birds nests. He says there was no trace of ochreous gravel. It was dug to a depth of six feet and may have cut through the Lenham beds. He promises to go again and observe. Sketch of the site.

P’s.71/72 Blank.

P.73. Terry's Lodge excavation, dated December 4th 1899. BH started out for this at 10 and was home again by 5. The trench to the reservoir was almost complete showing Tertiary clay and sand. There were 'masses of flints' there and some red clay. Close by lay a heap of decomposed pebbles.

Copy of a letter from FJ Bennett:

'They had nearly reached the reservoir so that when you go tomorrow you will find the section very much as it will be when finished. It is very interesting?... when section reaches the reservoir field you will see that they are 6 feet deep in the clean Tertiary clay with sand at bottom. This gets more flinty in places towards the reservoir. Below the reservoir field and the junction of the section then with that beside the road are some very stony patches with much black...

P.74. Continued from the previous page:

... stained flints but these seemed all uneven but close and long inspection is necessary before this can certainly be said. I then made my way to your chalk rock but this is not the "chalk rock" but I take it as Clement Reid's Coombe Rock. You will note that as a breccia being composed of angular bits of chalk. The position is too high up on the Upper Chalk, I should say for the true chalk rock. You will see this tomorrow I presume anyhow sometime. I must thank you for a very pleasant and interesting day both with you and also later on and I must think myself fortunate to have come to live so near so acute a brain as you are. Kind regards to you both. FJ Bennett'

P.75. Sketch of an eolith from Four Acre field, ink and wash.

Sunday December 10th 1899. There was a hard frost and BH started at 9 for Fenpond Road and went, via Plaxdale to Ash and North Ash. Found a few worked stones on the plain (North Downs plain) gravel as well as two or three eoliths. Refreshed at The Swan then home fro 4.30. A good palaeolith found on Roger's Farm as well as a 'well chipped eolith'.

Sunday 17th December was very cold with ten degrees of frost. BH stayed in writing most of the day. Later he walked to Four Wents via Basted Lane. He comments on the wintery nature of the past few weeks. In Oxford the temperature reached as low as 17 degrees below freezing. It was the most severe winter since 1895. On the same day in Ightham it registered 23 degrees of frost. Mr Bill said he had never known it so cold. BH looked through Prestwich's letters that night and spent time getting on with his autobiography.

P.76. Copy of a long letter from Rutot to BH. Dated December 21st 1899 and sent from the Natural History Museum, Brussels:

'... I am in receipt of your kind letter. I suppose that Mr Percy Martin did not communicate my letter to you and that you do not know its contents. Here are my conclusions:

1. The age of the drift of the chalk plateau is middle Pliocene: this drift was deposited before the erosion of the valleys
 2. At the beginning of the Quaternary age, the valleys were already excavated so far as the upper l...? It is this t...?, covered with ?... of flints, that the first men established themselves and utilised the Reutalian A primitive industry which was almost entirely comprised of hammers.
 3. A flood which deposited the *Elephas antiquas* and *Cyrene fluvialis* beds drove away the men from the upper terrace. They had to take refuge on the chalk plateau, and they chipped the natural flints of the drift according to the Mesvinian industry
 4. Later on, the waters returned, the erosion had continued and the men, with the Mesvinian industry came down on the upper terrace, and then on the lower terrace where they utilised the Acheulian industry.
 5. It is now established that the chalk plateau industry is absolutely identical to our Mesvinian industry and in our Belgian valleys we find quantity of layers with thousands and thousands of implements in stratigraphical position.
- I will say no more for the present. I am finishing an important paper on the Flanders hills with a special chapter on the comparison of our flints and the flints of the chalk plateau...

P.77. Continued from the previous page:

To convince you, I intend sending some geo specimens of Reutalian and Mesvinian industry of Belgium, and you will recognise the identity of the Mesvinian and the chalk Plateau included....'

Tuesday December 19th 1899 Jerry brought in some ochreous, worked flints and stated that the water company were not laying mains past Vigo towards Meopham. BH wrote to tell Mr Bennett that Terry said that the ochreous gravel at Vigo was 3 feet deep. On Christmas Day that year it rained at night and the roads were very wet and dirty. There were many finds in the fields near Boro' Green. BH likens this phenomenon to the sub-aerial denudation of the past. On this day BH completed the British Association Oxford plates. He walked to Comp to find Tom Newman who gave him half a dozen eoliths from the Vigo excavation. He completed a series of 9 from the Vigo excavation. On Boxing Day it was again wet from overnight rain. BH stayed in reading and letter writing to such as Lubbock and Rupert Jones. Agnes unwell. Elsie Ted and Liz were also at home.

P.78. Thursday 21st December was cold with an east wind. Ernest Beale called. Broad and Skinner's boy were ill with influenza. On the following day, Friday, the weather remained cold and was also wet. BH saw Horace Beale carting bricks to the Parish Hall. Mentions work planned for Christmas Day. The next day Liz and Elsie arrived in the evening. They went to see the site of the proposed works and reported that both men were ill. By the Sunday both men were worse and by Christmas Day both were regarded as being seriously ill. Hop and Lama dined with Ben and family. On Boxing Day the situation was alarming and Mrs H was still attending both. BH was called in by Hop at 11 and by 11.30 Horace died. On Wednesday 28th Ernest was reported as

having died but by Thursday there was rather better news from Miss Parks who had improved. But by 4.30 Howard was reported to have deteriorated and by the next morning he too was dead. Many funerals ensued.

P.79. January 1st 1900. A cold misty day followed one described as 'brilliant'. That day Ted and Agnes went to Stone Street. After a meander they called in on Mr Jelly at Dark Hill. Afterwards BH and Mrs Harrison went out visiting delivering a bronchitis kettle to Mrs Reeves. Mr White called in that afternoon.

Copy of a letter from Rutot to Percy Martin, dated 27th November 1899:

'... I have read the paper from Mr Harrison. I am much obliged for this kind attention. Since my last visit to England I have studied the question of flint implements of the chalk plateau and I think I have solved it. I have found in Belgium in stratigraphical position in several points, a great quantity of flint implements, absolutely identical to the flints of the chalk plateau, but as I had foreseen,, all these layers are in the valleys. The industry of the chalk plateau is absolutely identical to the Mesvinian industry; next to the specimens of the chalk plateau we can plan hammers and similar specimens of a Mesvinian industry. I have discovered in Belgium – and in Erith in the Thames in the basement...

P.80. Continued from the previous page:

... bed of the oldest Quaternary strata with *Elephas antiquas* and *Cyrene fluvialis*, an industry older than the Mesvinian. The industry of the chalk plateau is not then the oldest human industry, and from my studies I have arrived at the conclusion, that the drift of the chalk plateau is probably middle Pliocene, depressed before the formation of the valley whereas the flints of the chalk plateau were chipped a long time after the end of *Elephas antiquas* age. Actually I am writing a paper on the subject. To convince you of the reality of what I tell you I shall send you several series of our Mesvinian industry from the typical point (exploited ... specimens ...) and from different localities (Sambie and the Hain valleys) for comparison and you will see the identity of the two industries. I also intend sending you a good little series of our oldest industry (Reutelian industry) of the Flanders hills, in the Lys valley. In England you will find this industry on the gravel and basement bed of the *Cyrenae fluvialis* strata to Erith and along the base of the cliffs at Dover, Folkestone, Hastings and Herne Bay. These implements all from the Quaternary strata from the tops of the cliffs.

Following this entry BH has sketched a series of sections showing the stratigraphy associated with these various industries.

P.81. Continued from the previous page: more section sketches of the strata and fossil associations:

In seeing the drawing of this section, you will understand how the men who primitively lived in the Thames valley were driven away from this valley by the great inundation of the ... waters which deposited the beds of *Cyrene fluvialis*. The men driven from the valley took refuge on the high plateaus and chipped the flints of the drift according to the Mesvinian industry which is an improvement on the Reutelian industry. Yours very sincerely, A Rutot.'

Monday January 1st 1900. BH finished copying the foregoing letter from Rutot. Whilst doing this he felt aches and pains and thought he had flu. The next day he felt very ill and the Doctor visited as did Shrivell and his wife later that day. Liz came having been summoned by Agnes. The following day, though still ill he was able to lay on the sofa rather than the bed but Mrs Harrison had by then taken to her bed. By Sunday, though weak, he felt much better.

P.82. On Monday Miss Beale called. By Tuesday 9th all was almost back to normal. Mrs H was up and about so may have taken to her bed from tiredness rather than flu. Fog and heavy rains dominated the weather. The next few days saw BH resume his sketching. Cold weather returned on Saturday 13th January but Mrs Harrison was still confined to bed [so must have had flu].

Saturday January 13th 1900 saw Mr Herbert Garland, of Hastings, call on BH. Major Purvis was the mutual friend who introduced BH and Mr Garland, who had just returned from New Zealand. BH notes that the Maoris had been there for 600 years and had many strange tales and myths about big birds. Mr Garland knew Captain Hutton. Sir James Hector is also mentioned. They had an interesting discussion on the production of fire.

P.83. Continued from the previous page. BH lent Mr Garland some literature who told BH that he had learnt a great deal during his extensive travels. BH remarked that his lot in life was to attend to the world he found around him at home. Mr Garland responded saying that BH had taught him a lot and changed his world-view in so doing. Mr Garland was convinced of the authenticity of eoliths as the artefacts of early man.

Sunday 14th January 1900 was cold with a severe frost. BH stayed in sketching and notes that Mrs Harrison was much better followed by an entry indicating that she was, once again, not so well and had returned to bed for several days. John Holman, aged 88, was buried.

Sunday January 21st 1900 was another cold day that saw BH sketching and copying notes. Copy of a letter from Mr Bell dated 15th January 1900:

You have amassed much material. Do make an effort this year to put it in order, and say in black and white what you wish to say on your life and discoveries. If you want to do something in the way of starting writing and putting your work in order and had at the close of the year a year's work to show, I would take it to the treasury and it might result in an increase in pension. The Treasury I could plainly see felt annoyed that so often a pension grant was followed by complete inactivity of the

pensioner and they gauge by written work alone. Now what I say to you I say to myself daily; work while it is day, the night cometh when no man can work.

P.84. Sundayday January 2^{1st}. BH had a nasty cold and stayed in all day working on his autobiography and sketching. Mrs Harrison was much better. The following Saturday, 27th January saw hail, rain and snow and a sinking barometer as well as a sinking thermometer.. The following day, Sunday 28th it began to snow at 7.30 and continued till 12. More snow followed at night. Mr Potter visited bringing specimens of 'Belamine ware'. BH says this is type of old, iridescent glass, coated with gold and made in the 16th century.⁸

Sunday February 4th 1900 saw more snow that turned to slush on the roads. BH stayed in. He wrote a piece to commemorate the absence of 'Old Sol' (the sun) since Thursday week. This poem is about England, glacial conditions and the absence of the sun. It includes reference to 'Tommy Atkins' and 'the Boer'.⁹ It also contains a reference to the slush on the roads at that time.

P.85. More references to the atrocious conditions of snow, frost and fog, that affected the train service. Travellers, especially the season-ticket holders among them often walked from as far away as Buley, being clad in fur coats and well water-proofed for the journey, only to find the rail service from Boro' Green cancelled.

The 29th of January saw an election for an association. The entry for the 30th January contains reference to a sharp frost though it was a 'brilliant' day. BH notes a 'huge halo new moon... like northern lights'. Newspaper clipping: a poem about an assistant rates collector.

P.86. Saturday 3rd February 1900. More snow, a blizzard. BH did a 'real good day's work' on his correspondence and other office work on Sunday 4th February. Notes a cheque for £200.00 from Maidstone 'a godsend'.

Copy of a letter from Bell, dated 23rd January 1900:

Many thanks for letter and the wonderful Fawkham stone. It is really a hand held up from the dark backyard. If I am right, it has stayed in the hands of stone-using people of at least two and probably three ages. Thanks also for book, which I cannot now read, you don't know how hard I am at work. I rose at 5 yesterday and worked all day. Yours truly,
AM Bell.

He gives BH a list of facts that he asks him to include in his autobiography.

The outline of three palaeoliths drawn over this entry.

⁸ Bellarmine is named after Cardinal Bellarmine, a Jesuit 1542-1621. It is typically a stoneware jug or tankard for spirits or ale on which is cast a bearded mask. BH has spelt it 'Belamine'

⁹ An oblique reference to the Boer War of October 1899 – May 1902

P.87. Ghost of a removed newspaper clipping.

February 11th saw another blizzard. BH went out to remove the snow but it proved too cold for him and he stayed in all day.

P.88. 18 degrees of frost on the 13th February. BH had an unbearably painful corn on his left foot. The barometer began to fall rapidly and more snow came in from the south east. When Bassett arrived at 9.30 it rained but that changed quickly to more snow together with a gale.

On February 18th there was a succession of gales and persistent rain. The following day saw another sharp frost and a hail-storm. BH out walking after 11. The barometer began to fall and it rained heavily at night. The Darent mentioned as dammed with the formation of a veritable lake behind the dam which later and ran freely in the road, washing away all but the deeply embedded stones. A quiet day with no visitors.

On the 21st February Bennett called at 11.45 and they went to the Rockshelters in the Middle Wood, then on to Fish Ponds and up past Rosewood. Mrs Harrison went to Penge to fetch Elsie.

P.89. Sunday February 25th was cold and unpleasant but BH walked to High Field where he found one eolith. He noted the wash from the crown of the hill. He has sketched this in section. BH carefully examined and recorded the Wealden debris, a copy of which notes he sent to Bennett and entered into his autobiographical notes.

Sunday March 4th saw a cold wind coming from the north east: too cold to stay out for long, so he returned home and sketched. Agnes was at home. On Friday 9th March Mr Bennett visited at 12.30 and they walked to the Oldbury ramparts where they observed the geology. Sunday March 11th was fine and hazy. BH went out in the evening. Mr White called. The following day, 12th March, the temperature had risen to nearly 60 and Mr Brown commented that it was a perfect day. BH notes that the weather was set to change. He was correct.

Small newspaper clipping about British explorers in which General Pitt Rivers's letter is quoted. He notes that both Britain and Greece have a history of exploration.

The 17th March entry mentions Shamrock in Ightham Park pastures, which Ted said was not the real thing. Entry about Ian Johnson and a load of thin wooden slabs carried on his shoulder. The faster he walked the more the load swung. Barometer fell rapidly.

P.90. Sunday March 18th 1900. A sharp frost marked the start of the month, in many places as low as 17 degrees below. BH walked at 11.15 but had to take shelter at Beale's owing to a heavy snowstorm. He tried again at 5.30 but this time more heavy snow was made worse by heavy rain. The next morning a snow-plough was out but the snow melted spontaneously. The cold weather continued for the week but did not stop the cycle paperchase on Friday. BH comments how good it was to see the glow on the faces of the participants.

Despite the cold weather on Sunday 25th March BH went for a 'ramble' in search of shamrock then to Ivy Hatch and many other places including Oldbury. He returned at 1.30 and felt much better for the exercise. He read and wrote in the evening.

Quote from Blackmore on the Dewlish excavations and finds, which includes remarks about eoliths as well as the fact that Blackmore knew the farmer on whose land elephant remains had been found.

P.91. Entry from previous page continues: Discussion of the mammalian faunal finds and of the Pliocene gravels.

Remarks by Huxley about Jewish male circumcision and human evolution.

Sunday April 1st saw the death of Mr Waller after an illness of two days. BH went to Oldbury and St Clere where he had a chat with Potter who accompanied him to Four Wents. In the afternoon Percy Martin visited. They walked to the Knoll and were given a lift back to Crown Point by the owner.

P.92. Sketches of palaeoliths from various places.

P.93. Thursday April 5th 1900 records the burial of Mr Monckton at Wrotham. Rain made this occasion less pleasant than it would have been.

Small newspaper clipping about the promotion of William Furse to that of Major in the Royal Artillery.

On Sunday April 8th Mr Bell stayed overnight locally. Despite the cold the fine morning saw BH and Bell visit the rock shelters. Bell left by the 3.5 train. BH spent the evening at home. The following Tuesday was a perfect spring day in which BH and Bennett went to Otford where they found many white flakes by the path going to The Mount. They also found some eoliths by a work patch where they observed the pebble beds and noted the presence of Lenham stone. Chert was seen at Birches as well as eoliths. Home at 4.30. The specimens at Birches were small and very satisfactory and the whole day was most enjoyable. Weather conditions were perfect but it rained that night.

Good Friday fell on 13th April. A 'strange gale' blew from the west. Ted, Agnes and BH walked to Wrotham and on to Vigo and to the water section by the old Gate House. He comments that there were no traces of significant geological exposures near Wrotham. BH spent the evening gardening whilst Ted and Agnes went to Fish Ponds.

On Saturday 14th April 1900 Ted and Mr G to Stone Street and Basted Valley. More walking in Shoreham in the afternoon, Agnes included in this little adventure. Easter Sunday was very peaceful.

P.94. Newspaper clipping [*The Kent Messenger*] about Mr Monckton's funeral. More accounts of walking done by BH, Ted and Agnes, this time to Crowsland. Ted and Agnes went further to Woodlands Church. They found one worn, Palaeolithic flake and many eoliths, of which one was a body stone, drawn below. BH notes that

chert had been found at Birches on the previous Tuesday. Another eolith drawing of a specimen found on Easter Monday, the 16th April 1900. BH, Mrs Harrison and Ted out walking to Mount House where BH noted the interesting drift. Mr Bennett's pit near Platt Church, is commented upon. Flint in various places in this vicinity. A Palaeolithic flake found west of the house. Refreshed at The Royal Oak and on to Windmill Hill. Home via Basted. Comments on the wild life he has seen whilst out which consisted of:

8 Jays
4 cats
4 stoats
1 ...
3 hedgehogs
1 hawk

P.95. Copy of a letter from JR Smith, not dated. The letter contains an extract from *Chamber's Dictionary* about the rare association between gold and chalk. The writer then records his view that there must be plenty of gold in the Kent chalk. He plans to find the ancient river-bed in the valley. Tuesday 17th April 1900 started out fine but it rained later. BH went to Shrivell's. Wednesday 18th April 1900. The 18th April again started out as a fine day on which BH went to London to see *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Her Majesty's Theatre. He also managed to make a trip to the quarry with Mrs Harrison. On Thursday 19th April he and Ted went to Westerham and many other places in between. Friday 20th April was another cloudless day which saw BH out walking,

Small clipping about Sir Joseph Prestwich's collection being placed at the Natural History Museum. BH notes the change to spring-like conditions.

P.96. Saturday 21st very warm which saw 'our young folk' step out to Exedown. BH met Nurse Rigby in the evening. Sunday remained hot which BH spent weeding till 9 when Percy Martin appeared. He and BH went out towards Ash and the other areas of interest at 12.30. Nurse Rigby and Mrs H made the journey there in the trap, Ted and Agnes walked. It was a day in which many Ightham folk congregated in this area. BH comments 'Too many Ightham folk'. Home via Wrotham from a very enjoyable day out. Monday 23rd April was foggy but they all went to Malling by train, including Nurse Rigby on what turned into a very hot day. BH notes that the total distance covered by their young folk was 150 miles. A note to the effect that Tom Bassett died in Barming Asylum after only two weeks there.

P.97. Sketch of a [?Middle] Palaeolithic stone tool, from Styants Bottom. An entry about Sir Roger de Coverley, as noted by Bell on a visit to an art gallery. More about Huxley's view on acquired characteristics, once more about circumcision. He concludes: 'there's a divinity doth shape our ends rough hew them as we will'.¹⁰

An entry about Spurrell and Worthington G Smith. They apparently agreed that hammer stones of flint were often used in Palaeolithic times as well as anvil stones, as described by Mr Spurrell.

¹⁰ Shakespeare. *Hamlet* to Horatio Act 5 scene 1

P.98. Conclusion of the entry about flint hammers and anvils as used in Palaeolithic times. Taken from P.98 of Notebook 16.¹¹

On Friday April 27th Mr Darbishire arrived at 10 and, after inspecting the Museum BH and he drove to Terry's Lodge section where they made many finds. Then they went on to Knockholt section, with which they were much impressed, BH saying he had never seen so interesting a section. From there they went to Maplescombe Valley. Crowsland patch was examined after which they left for home. The weather was not so good though the Blackthorn was out and was very pleasing.

On Saturday Alexander Murray of 29 Montague Street, London SW called on BH. He was a great traveller and promised to visit again.

Sunday April 29th was a bright day with a slight frost. BH sketched, this included sketches on 'three giants for Mr WG Smith'. Professor and Mrs Holmes arrived at 1. He said that the Spiked Star of Bethlehem or *Ornithogalum*, grew in the corner of the wood near Miss Boseman's. Potter visited at 3 and Loveland at 4. In the evening BH and Mrs H went out, he to see Mr Pink about Tom Bassett's death, Mrs H to Mists where she stayed for supper. BH was tempted to examine a three feet thick section of flint drift. Vowed to examine this feature again.

Hill section sketched. BH vowed to go again for a look at this feature.

P.99. On Sunday May 6th BH comments that the barometer has been slowly sinking for some days. A fierce thunderstorm occurred on Sunday evening. He, undeterred, went walking to Basted with Mr Hodd and another gentleman. Later they went to Kingsdown via Knockmill. Mrs H. and BH later walked to Fish Ponds got caught by the rain and took shelter in Mrs Munn's house. He mentions finds from Terry's Lodge.

Copy of a note from Professor Rupert Jones and Rev Bullen who tell BH of their intention to visit and view the latest specimens. They tell BH they won't be able to walk on the North Downs. BH then informs us of the arrival of Professor Jones and Mr Bullen from Sevenoaks who make their inspection of the museum. He regarded this as another 'red letter day'.

Section sketch of a (probably BH's own) garden. Below the sketch he writes: 'In making a new entrance to the field the above exposure shown in front of my garden May 16th 1900'.

P.100. Sunday May 13th 1900. On this bright cold day, which saw the wind coming from the north-east, BH notes that there had been snow in Malling. He stayed at home till 6.15 after which they (BH and Mrs H) walked to Oaklands. At home afterwards, the fire, though roaring, did not keep the intense cold at bay. BH's legs ached as they did in the depths of winter. He spent some time sorting out and classifying pit specimens.

¹¹ Missing from BH's Maidstone Museum archive which has Books 15 and 17

On the 16th April BH took the 8.25 train to London. The previous evening had been spent at Oldfields. Miss Vaughan was there whom BH found 'nice but too touching'. He reverts to the account of the London visit and says that he met Liz at Victoria Station and they went on to the Natural History Museum where Dr Woodward met them. Then on to Burlington House where they called for a chat with Mr James. They also called on Professor Newton. A mutual interest in Blackmore's finds is mentioned though they agreed that the finding of the *Elephas meridionalis* in conjunction with them does not denote them as Pliocene. The period over which *Elephas* may have been present, it is suggested, could have been longer than currently admitted. Then by board walk on to Primrose Hill road. Liz accompanied BH to O...de Terrace where Pickering met them and graciously offered them something in settlement. BH accepted whatever was offered and they left. Comments on the paintings they had viewed mentioning the 'Sundridge Christ' and a 'cornfield'. He took the 8.30 train home noting how cold it remained.

Sunday May 21st was a fine day which BH spent 'reading and weeding'. This last activity was absolutely needed as BH's trip on Wednesday meant that the garden, which clearly needed attention, got even more messy. Fowler and two friends, from Yalding were there helping him with the garden. BH took off for Longfield at 4 for an hour. He walked via the clay-cutting field at Patch Grove, passing the forge on his way. Home at 8, and much warmer, as was the weather.

Insert of the Anthropological Institute meeting for Tuesday 15th May 1900 in which the current president was noted as CH Read. The current Honorary Secretary and Treasurer are noted as are Council members. Past Presidents are listed. On the reverse is a photograph of Captain Sir Douglas Galton

P.101. A newspaper clipping sent to BH by D Wood of Enfield. It describes an imagined day in the life of Neolithic people living in a village on the North Downs.

An order of service for the dedication of the chancel screen and lectern of St Peter's Church, Ightham after which BH describes an incident involving Mrs Goldsworthy who visited at 11.30. She was curious about Kingsdown church. She also mentions Aldham, on which Mrs Dalison was an expert. This lady maintained that Richard 1st had stayed there on his way to the Crusades. They then discussed the Addington stone circle as well as the Coldrum and Maplescombe church and other places and features of interest. BH added to the conversation talking about his interest in the pits created as a result of South East Water excavations. Mrs Dalison asked about the possibility of metal 'missiles' being discovered there, as they had been below Labour -in-Vain hill. BH said none had but admits to being curious about those found below the hill. Mrs Dalison sketched an outline of these metal finds, which BH has copied here. He tells her of Elton's work and the repairs to the old road from Devonshire to the port of Sandwich.

P.102. The entry from the previous page continues. BH refers to Grant Allen's article on the Bronze Age and the prehistoric nature of the Pilgrim's Road. This was of great interest to Mrs Dalison. She promised to send the finds she had described to BH. Pencil sketch of one of the specimens. Mrs D set off to collect her specimens and was back with them within the hour. BH identified them as marcasite or iron pyrites. To

convince her of this BH ran off to collect the box of specimens found near the remains of Wrotham Palace. He hit one specimen with a hammer to reveal the interior. Mrs Dalison was disappointed to be confronted with the truth of her finds.

On May 21st 1900 BH mentions Bullen and Mr FW Harmer and his paper and the work of J Lomas on the inorganic constituents of the crag, the rarer minerals of which include zircon, rutile, cyanite, ilmenite with boxcoxene, garnets, andalersite corundima, tormaline, biotite, glauconite, orthoclase, labrinidite, albite and imorlene.

BH had not then received Mr Chapman's report on the microscopic analysis of the pit samples. Professor Rupert Jones agreed with him that it was not necessary to revive the Cunnington opposition.

P.103. Newspaper clipping about the evolution of the horse.

On the 24th May the Queen's birthday and the relief of Mafeking were commemorated. It rained. He notes a large car with Britannia and other potent symbols of the kingdoms of Britain on it, which made its way around the village. J Durling was Baden Powell whilst C Durling Captain Lambton. Mr Hollands played the cornet.

Drawings of a section as seen from BH's museum window which exposed the chert underlying the top soil, dated May 23rd 1900.

An account of the places visited by BH on a walk, which also seems to have been the route the celebration took before returning to Ightham where there was much singing. BH describes it as 'a capital day'.

On Sunday 27th May Mrs H was very ill and they had a quiet, restful time.

P.104. Illustrations from the newspaper clipping of the evolution of the horse.

P.105. An entry about body stones and the evidence supporting them as particular artefacts. Dennis Burr is mentioned as a man who had worked in Australian mining and on the railways, though what follows may not be attributable to him. There is talk of a particular animal, 'usually killed by the blacks and eaten ...'. More talk of this creature which, when 'run down' by the natives, may be used for 'body polishing – particularly (the) face'. Then mentioned is the much travelled Francis Robert Brandt who spent four and a half years in West I... land. He says he has never seen stones quite like the [body] stones BH has just shown him. Talk then of how the stones may have been used by ancient man. Talk of sand in cracks in the skin of the feet, acknowledged to be painful experience. They discuss *Spinifax*, a prickly grass, the damage it can do to the soles of the feet and how sand then enters causing lameness. Its clump-forming growth habit is noted.¹²

P.106. Blank.

¹² *Spinifax irritans*, or Porcupine grass grows in arid conditions in Australia. It belongs to the Trodia family of grasses and has awl-shaped leaves

P.107. Copy of a letter from Rupert Jones, who was then living at Parson's Green, dated June 3rd 1899:

... I owe you special thanks for the newspaper letter. The paper you gave the Rochester gathering was very clear, comprehensive and striking. I have lent the paper to a friend Mr. Nicol Brown FGS of 4 the Grove, Highgate. Your address will form an admirable basis for a popular and yet scientific memoir of the Brownies. As the brownies and their unloved relatives come in several gravels (besides the plateau gravels of Kent) it will be well for observers to know what to look for anywhere. I hope the address will be printed in the Transaction of the meeting. It would be worthwhile for somebody to note where flints take a brown tint, in this or that gravel and why, and whether the browning comes to yellow or to black flints of any sort. I am glad to hear that you have a good lot of gault from your special gravel. Can you get a percentage of the different sorts of these stones that constitute that gravel? Just as Sir Joseph used to do generally.

There follows a letter from Sir John Evans, dated June 7th 1899:

... I am obliged for your letter and am glad that you have succeeded in finding Gault fossils in the drift of the chalk downs at Terry's Lodge. They seem to support strongly the view that the valley was cut subsequently to the formation of the inclined place of the hills as suggested by Sir Joseph Prestwich. I should not be much astonished if eventually you find a real Palaeolithic implement in the gravel there, though negative evidence is not to be slighted. At Whitsuntide I was at Canterbury and found a good implement in a new pit near Sturry on the way to Reculver. Thanks for the Rochester paper. There must have been an interesting meeting. It requires some imagination to picture a people with special implements for rubbing their feet but none for the everyday purposes of life, but I won't go into this. I am extremely busy just now....

P.108. Ghost of a removed clipping.

Programme for the South Eastern Union of Scientific Societies meeting of May 25-27th 1899, which includes BH's session on 'Plateau Implements'. The meeting was held at Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School.

Clipping recording Dr Parker's return to the City Temple. His address seems to have been an injunction to accept the status quo and not seek for more knowledge and understanding of natural processes.

P.109. Small ghost of a removed newspaper clipping. The writing adjacent refers to Matthew Arnold who seems to have caught the idea expressed in the clipping. It must have been spiritual or religious in tone. BH remarks that it is 'the energy of life maybe'.

There follows a poem about the afterlife. Original letter from Edward Harrison to his father, dated 21st May 1899. In it are a few acerbic comments about the [lack of] correspondence from home. He says he is like the red queen who yelled first then pricked her finger, in that he lives life backwards in matters of correspondence from home. He mentions having read the *South Eastern Gazette* with news from Kent. Says he received a big envelope from Liz and among the contents was a letter from BH telling people of his quinsy and the fact that he was bed-ridden as a result of this. Edward says he was about to rush home to see how his father was when a telegram arrived with the news of BH's recovery. Edward remarks 'Still, it is a funny world'. A drawing of a yellow daisy and he concludes 'Love to all'.

A paste-in on which is written 'Never mind about the Man of Kent... getting better' is the slip found by Edward, which prompted his letter. The events which led to its inclusion in the paper and from which the note fell, allowing Edward to read it are explained by BH who had been ill with 'quinsy', a fact he had not communicated to Edward.

P.110. Copy of a letter from Geikie, dated 3rd May 1899:

I have to thank you very much for so kindly sending me your letter to Miss Bevington. I have read it with much interest. It is very gratifying to find that words of mine have done anything to help you in your researches. But you did not need any inspiration – you had it in you, and were bound to do good work. I am only sorry the fates in other respects have not been kind to you. But from what I have heard some time ago it seems likely that your devotion to archaeological research would not go unrewarded. In any event you have always the satisfaction of having greatly expanded our knowledge of the antiquity of man in England. And what a store of pleasant remembrances you must have laid up! I myself know of hardly any dreaming so delightful as the recalling of farm tramps and talks with old friends. Each of one's specimens has its own tale to tell – they form a kind of geological diary. I have not heard of any recent finds of any particular interest to archaeologists. But not a year passes that does not yield us something new. To me one of the most interesting researches completes within recent years is that of the Schoeningbild, near Schaffhausen, some account of which you will find in the accompanying papers. Am I to return you the letter to Miss Bevington? As you seem to have a decided turn for literary work, did you never think of writing out in full your story. I am sure if this were done after the same was as your letter to Miss Bevington it would make a most interesting book. Think of it – perhaps, if you considered my suggestion, you might (like) the advice of Mr. Bell, in whose judgment you could rely... With Kind regards... Jas Geikie.

P.111. Copy of a letter from A Montgomery Bell, dated 8th June 1899:

... This may encourage you. Last night Dr. Tylor (who) gave an informal lecture to the Junior Scientific Society here, on the survival of Palaeolithic conditions in the Tasmanians of the Pacific islands.

He spoke of the Plateau types as undoubtedly human; indeed one of your examples was simply reproduced by a Tasmanian. He further said that he had always believed in them since they were first brought under his notice and quoted what Sir Joseph Prestwich had said to him that not to accept them was "silly". He mentioned, I need not say, you as the finder.

To my mind this means that the tide has turned, and is now flowing in your favour of common sense and also of the broader view of the stone time of life. These have been painful years and have brought difficulties from which you may never be free: but I seem to see clearly that you have done a great service to archaeology in calling for an examination of the lowly tools of human origin. They have of late years been looked up all over the globe, and this I think is largely due to your observations and to the controversy which they have raised. Hold on quietly and all will be well...?.

In the margin BH has written in red ink: 'On reading this to my old friend Beale, he replied "The grass ought to have been cut and stacked long ago..."'. The analogy continues for a line or two and means of course that the eolith question should have been settled in BH's favour long since. A short entry below this, from Bell to BH, goes thus: 'Your position is very tantalising but you occupy one of great dignity'.

P.112. A copy of a letter from A Montgomery Bell sent from Oxford and dated 14th May 1899 in which he says:

You have friends. I have a very kind note from W. Whitaker about you today. He will present a request to the Royal Society in your favour. They entertain no request which is not "fathered" by the President of one of the bodies of which the Geological Society is one. If something comes of these efforts that would be a handle for Grant Allen's articles, which would then come in well.

Meantime, I trust and am confident that you will make a favourable impression at Rochester. You may, I feel see in thinking that your admirers know too much. Be clear, above all things. I have heard very high people who claim to judge on this subject, speak as outsiders. I have been very busy since my return, merely wrote this to let you know that you are not forgotten....

There follows the copy of an extract from P[rofessor] Boulger's letter, dated May 9th 1899:

I do hope I shall see you as well as your flints at Rochester, when I shall be, throughout the Congress, though I vacate the Presidential Chair at the beginning thereof. Thanks for very largely to the training my eyes have remained from your collections in recognising a series of increasingly "primitivity" in flints which are still indisputably human. I am prepared to go to the greatest lengths in the eolithic direction,

accepting as I do, even Lewis Abbott's fossil bed find. I don't know whether I can say much on the subject at Rochester, but I am much obliged for the sight of Mr Brabrook's address. I have been for some years collecting matter for a history of geology of all mankind matters from the earliest times and in the stone stage part of this book I shall certainly take the same tone...with kind regards, Yours sincerely... G S Boulger

P.113. Clipping from the letters column of The Times September 29th 1896, from Henry Walker. In it, BH's eoliths are referred to as 'epoch-making discoveries...'.

Copy of a letter from Francis Conn, Editor of the *South Eastern Gazette*, dated April 28th 1899:

I am greatly obliged to you for your kindness in sending Grant Allen's letter for my perusal. As to the article from his pen which you would like to see published in the *SEG* I am sorry to say that Mr Anning has been unable to get the writer's consent. I understand that Grant Allen still thinks that there is still some chance of getting it in the "Fortnightly" and that he intends to communicate with the Editor on his return from the Italian Lakes. If it does not appear in the review?... I should be most happy, with the writer's consent, to publish it in whole or in part, in the *SEG* because I am sure that it will give a most useful purpose in drawing attention to the?... Kent may suffer if it allows any part of your collection of flint implements to pass out of its hands. If anything is to be done I suppose it must be done soon. I therefore hope Grant Allen's return home will not be long delayed. Yours faithfully, Francis Conn (Editor).

P.114. Copy of a letter from Francis Conn, Editor of the *SEG*, dated April 21st ?1899:

... permit me to thank you for your kindly note re: Harrison's Collection. I may say that following on a letter, which reached me a day or two ago from Mr. Harrison, I had a talk with Mr. A...y of the town with regard to publishing Grant Allen's articles in the *SEG*. I certainly think this article would arouse much interest and with the writer's consent, for which Mr Anning has applied, it shall appear either as a whole or in reduced form in a future issue of the *Gazette*. I hope to be able to make a journey to Ightham shortly, and if I can arrange to meet you there, I should be highly delighted. Believe me, Yours faithfully Francis R Conn (Editor).

Clipping about having sufficient information which might allow for orthodox error (or prejudice) to be corrected. Above it, in faded red ink in BH's hand, a note about wisdom.

This concludes Volume 30 of the Benjamin Harrison archive held at the Maidstone Museum.

Angela Muthana, Sunday 3 July 2016.