

families of pelt-mongers and flint knappers, who bartered their worked flints for the skins of animals that the hunters had killed. This theory is supported by the vast number (about 1500) of scrapers found. Many of the implements are of Cissbury type, that is, of the Aurignacian period.

Above 3,000 worked flints have been found in an area of half a square mile, of which one-third were considered worth preservation. These included 500 scrapers, 50 arrow-heads and points, 47 axes (these were found scattered over a much larger area), 40 spear and javelin heads, very many knives, awls, borers, saws, and "fabricators." Many of the last seem too slight to work flint with, and would, perhaps, be better called "graving tools," if we allow that the early men used pottery. I have collected more than 500 fragments of pottery from the whole area I have searched. These I attribute to the late Stone Age chiefly, or to the Romano-British Age. Similarly patterned fragments are figured in "Munro's Lake Dwellings" (29), and in "Greenwell's British Barrows" (158).

On the northern border of the parish is a tumulus known as Anker Hill. This was dug into by the late Sir John Evans and the late Sir William Fowler, but they found nothing of importance. There are also slight traces of another tumulus, south-east of this one. Sir John Evans declared that "there were no Stone Age relics of any value to be found in Beechamwell." (!)

## ROMAN INTERMENTS AT SCOLE.

BY W. A. DUTT.

*Read at Norwich, January 27th, 1913.*

About ten years ago some labourers engaged in excavating gravel from a pit on the estate of Mr. A. Wood Crawshay, J.P., in the parish of Scole, Norfolk, brought to light a number of iron spear-heads, a quantity of fragmentary pottery, a small ornamented object of bronze, and several bones. No effort was made to discover the positions these various objects occupied in relation to each other, but it was ascertained that they were all deposited in some trenches about six feet long and three feet wide, cut in the surface soil of the ground bordering the pit. Through the kindness of Mr. Crawshay, I was able to exhibit some of these relics at a meeting of the Prehistoric Society of East Anglia, held at Norwich, on March 22nd, 1909, and the conclusion come to concerning them was that they represented interments of the Roman period. Six spear-heads were found, two being uninjured apart from corrosion, while the remaining four were broken, one having lost the whole of its blade. They are shown in Plate LXXII., and their dimensions are as follows :—

1. Total length 11 ins.; blade  $2\frac{1}{4}$  ins.; width of blade  $\frac{3}{4}$  in.
2. Total length 8 ins.; blade  $5\frac{3}{4}$  ins.; width of blade  $1\frac{7}{8}$  ins.
3. Total length  $5\frac{3}{4}$  ins.; blade (imperfect) 3 ins.; width of blade  $1\frac{1}{16}$  ins.
4. Total length 4 ins.; blade (imperfect)  $2\frac{1}{8}$  ins.; width of blade  $1\frac{1}{8}$  ins.
5. Total length  $7\frac{5}{8}$  ins.; blade missing.
6. Total length 8 ins.; blade (imperfect)  $4\frac{3}{4}$  ins.; width of blade  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ins.

No. 1, a much lighter weapon than the others, and having a small blade, perhaps should be described as a javelin. The Roman Velites, so-called on account of their swiftness and agility, carried, according to Livy, javelins with slender points like arrows. The blade of No. 6 differs from those of the other spear-heads in being made of two overlapping halves which have been welded together. Three other iron objects were discovered and are shown in the photograph. No. 7 is  $4\frac{3}{8}$  ins. in length and pierced with a hole  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. in diameter. No. 8 possibly represents the hook (*falx*) which formed a part of the sixty-pounds load carried by the Roman soldier in addition to his arms. It measures 8 ins. in length, and is tanged for insertion in a handle. No. 9 is a staple-like object  $3\frac{7}{8}$  ins. in length.

Perhaps the most interesting thing found in the trenches is a vase-shaped bronze object which is, apparently, the basal portion of some small ornament or vessel. It measures  $1\frac{1}{4}$  ins. in height,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  ins. in diameter at the base, and  $1\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch in diameter at the top, the circumference at the narrow part or "neck" being  $1\frac{3}{8}$  ins. Its ornamentation is almost hidden by verdigris, but enough is distinguishable to show that it consists of a slightly raised band of perpendicular lines and indentations around the top, the same design being reproduced in two bands around the base, together with well-defined concentric circles. Although rather heavy for its size, it is not a solid object, being concave at top and bottom.

Twenty-seven fragments of pottery were sent to me by Mr. Crawshay, consisting of rims, bases, the necks of two large single-handled vessels, one handle, and various smaller pieces. Two grooves running down the full length of the handle were the only attempts at ornamentation detected on these potsherds except in the cases of one or two small pieces showing shallow cordons or bands in low relief. Most of the pieces were identical in character with many that have been found in and around the Roman *castellum* at Burgh Castle. They included two fragments of plain red ware, one being a portion of the lid of a kind of jar. The two necks measured respectively 6 and 7 ins. in their smallest circumference, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  and 4 ins. in length. They were of a pale yellowish hue, and undoubtedly belonged to two pitchers. Such a pitcher was discovered by the late Professor J. S. Henslow, in a Roman tumulus at Rougham in

Suffolk, and is figured in Vol. 1 of the "Eastern Counties Magazine." All the potsherds appear to have belonged to wheel-turned vessels.

These Roman relics are not only interesting in themselves, but have additional interest in consequence of their having been found close beside the Roman road that connected Camulodunum (Colchester) with Venta Icenorum (Caistor St. Edmund) and Norwich. Travellers along this road in Roman times crossed the River Waveney at Scole by means of a ford, and there is evidence that one or more Roman villas existed in that neighbourhood. At Diss, about two miles west of Scole, remains of a villa were discovered some years ago; while at Stoke Ash, a parish a few miles south of Scole along the Roman road, a considerable quantity of Roman pottery has been met with; also several Roman coins, and some urns containing calcined bones. It is worth mentioning that early in the last century Lapie located Villa Faustini of Antonine's Itinerary at Little Thornham, a parish adjoining Stoke Ash.

## THE RED CRAG SHELL PORTRAIT.

BY MARIE C. STOPES, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.L.S., ETC.

*Read at London, February 12th, 1913.*

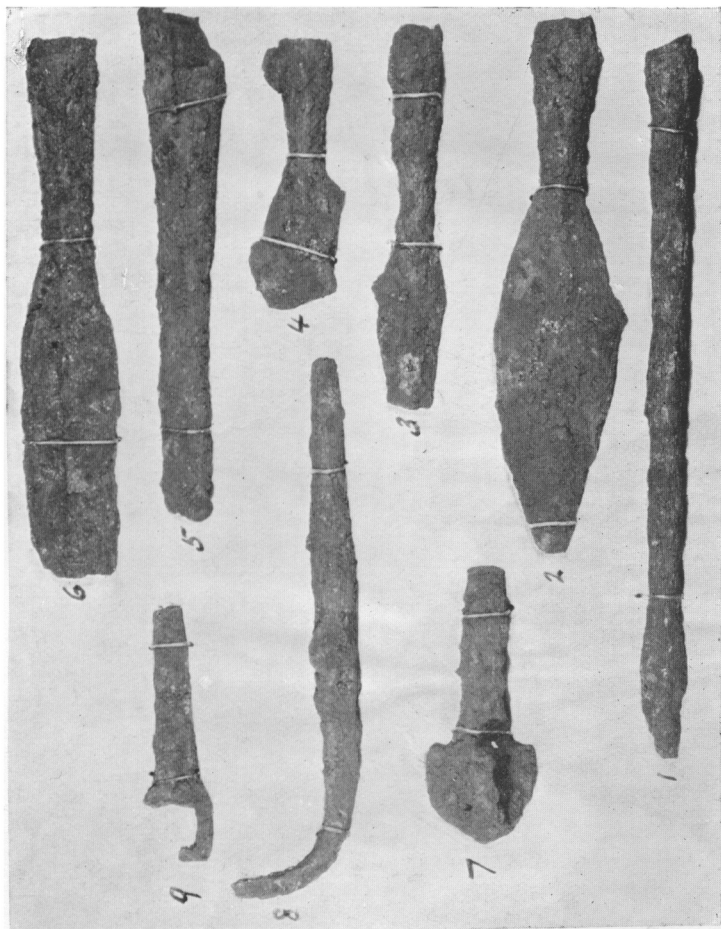
Owing to the continued expression of interest in the Red Crag Shell, which bears a crude carving of a human face upon it, and which my father first described so many years ago,<sup>1</sup> the time seems ripe to collect the evidence regarding it. I wrote a letter to the "Geological Magazine"<sup>2</sup> summarising the facts of the case, and giving the literature of the subject, and this was followed by a later note.<sup>3</sup>

Many geologists and others have expressed themselves as desirous of seeing the shell, round which discussion and more or less heated opinion has revolved for thirty-two years. It was shown at the London meeting of the Prehistoric Society of East Anglia, when the President, Dr. Sturge, proposed that a committee should be formed critically to examine and report on it. In the present paper, therefore, I shall confine myself to stating its history, and bringing together what little contemporary evidence there is regarding its discovery.

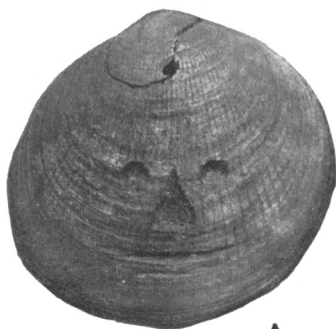
<sup>1</sup> STOPES, H. "Traces of Man in the Crag." Rep. Brit. Assoc., York, 1881, p. 700.

<sup>2</sup> STOPES, M. C. "Human art in the Red Crag." Geol. Mag., Feb., 1912, p. 95.

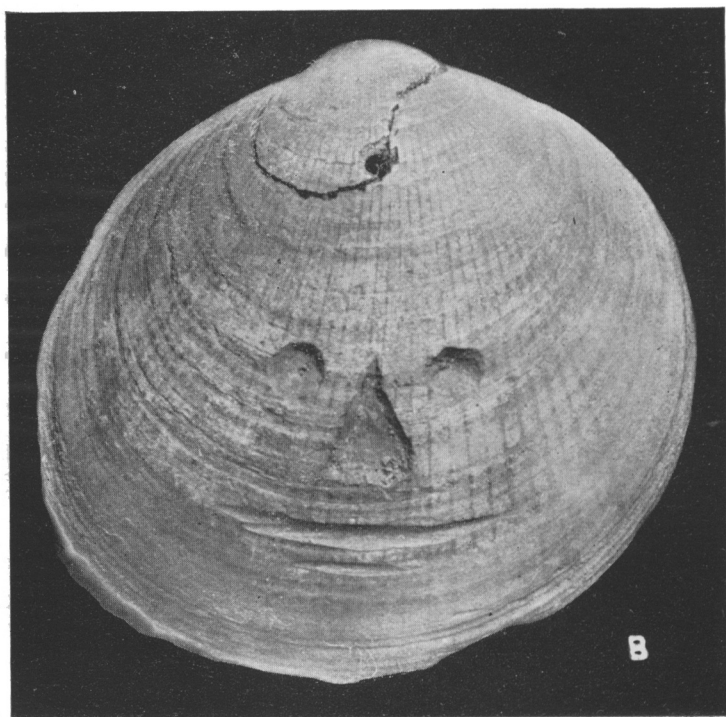
<sup>3</sup> STOPES, M. C. "The Red Crag Portrait." Geol. Mag., June, 1912, pp. 285-6, text fig.



Roman Weapons and Tools found at Scole, Norfolk.  $\frac{1}{3}$



A



B

The Red Crag Shell Portrait.

A—Natural size.

B—X 2 diams.