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and berries. The stock is made from a palm-leaf rib, with the natural groove uppermost. In the specimen collected (Fig. 2) and in several others observed, the shape of the stock imitates a gun, and a hole has been made in the "muzzle" end to imitate the bore of a gunbarrel. The method of release is ingenious: two pegs, in this case European nails, are fixed in the stock where the hammers occur in a gun, the front peg is immovable, the other is allowed a certain amount of play backwards and forwards; to the centre of the bowstring is fixed a short piece of wood, the bow is drawn, the movable peg pulled forward, and the piece of wood attached to the bowstring is wedged between the two pegs. To fire the bow the rear peg is drawn back by a short string passing through a vertical hole in the stock, and the bowstring is thus released. In the specimen figured a trigger-guard is added to complete the resemblance to a gun.

War is made as among the northern tribe, but no prisoners are taken. The skulls of opponents slain in the great war or *gambi* are exposed in the village until the end of the war, when they are given back and buried.

Their religion is much the same as that of the Ba-Huana; each adult is supposed to have a double soul, of which the elements are the *doshi*, or double; and the *m'tyima*, which corresponds to the *bun* of the Ba-Huana. The apparition of the *m'tyima* of a dead man is called *mafakulu* (among the Ba-Huana *fakulu*).

Women suckling children neither paint nor ornament themselves, and must abstain from all sexual intercourse.

In other respects the description of the Northern Ba-Mbala contained in the paper, to which repeated reference has been made, may be taken as true also of the Southern Ba-Mbala.

E. TORDAY.
T. A. JOYCE.

Archæology: Eoliths.

Kendall.

The Case for Eoliths restated. By the Rev. H. G. O. Kendall, M.A.

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In the minds of many people it is not yet proven that there are such things as "eolithic" flint tools, *i.e.*, flints chipped by man at some period which considerably antedates the palæolithic age and showing a ruder industry.

To some of us, however, the thing seems as clear as is the established fact of the existence of man of the Old Stone Age.

At Hackpen Hill in Wiltshire, at a height of 875 feet O.D., I have found small patches of drift containing both trimmed eoliths and flaked stones, abraded and striated and also unabraded. Almost all that I have obtained have come from the surface of the ground where the drift may be seen. The condition, however, of some of the wrought stones, at any rate, forbids any other supposition than that they are part and parcel of the drift in which they are found. They are exactly similar in condition to its constituent, naturally broken flints. Some of them cannot have been carried on to the top of the hill by palæolithic man and there dropped, for they are abraded almost beyond recognition. At the time that these stones were being abraded, the nearest palæolithic sites cannot have been habitable. It is, moreover, unlikely, to say the least of it, that the Old Stone Age man should have carried flakes and flaked scraps thither unless the place were one of constant resort. But in this latter case we should find some signs of his better flaked, unabraded, and non-ochreous implements on the hill tops.

How, then, did the flaked stones of the plateau drift reach the summits of the hills where they now lie?

There are two possible means. Either the configuration of the country must have been completely different from that of palæolithic times when these stones were deposited, and the hill top must have been a valley, or the stones of the drift must have been pushed into their present position by ice.

But this would demand ice of such thickness and quantity as is not supposed to have existed in the South of England since the glacial period, for Hackpen Hill rises more than 300 feet above the bottom of the valley down which runs the burn which constitutes in winter the upper waters of the River Kennet. If, therefore, in such configuration of the country as now exists, or as existed in palæolithic times when the present river valleys were already deeply cut, ice was the transporting agent, the implements are proved at once to be pre-glacial. So according to this theory they would be a long while pre-palæolithic, since palæolithic man is generally supposed to be post-glacial.

If the above remarks be true and the reasoning sound, there can be no doubt whatever as to the flaked stones which are found in the highest plateau drifts belonging to an age much older than the palæolithic. From the drift on Hackpen Hill, at 875 feet, I have a few flaked implements of varying degrees of excellence or rudeness. Some are very much abraded and striated. I have only found them after very diligent search. One specimen, in particular, is of great importance. It is very much striated and so much abraded as, at first sight, to be difficult of recognition. But on examination it is seen to have been as definitely flaked on both faces as an implement from the river drift. One face is flat, the other convex. A portion of crust or of still older brown surface remains on the latter face. In outline the implement is of the ovate type, but with one bow-shaped edge such as may be seen on many river drift implements also. I have another implement with most definite flakings and of somewhat peculiar type, which is scarcely abraded at all. A third is very small and delicately flaked. The one is ochreous, the other ochreous brown, in colour. The flakes are abraded, striated and ochreous brown. In certain hollows, where it would seem that a clayey matrix has by some means partially disappeared, may be found unabraded or slightly abraded flaked stones of a dark greenish hue. These, it would appear, are of later date than the ochreous-brown stones, but belong to a period which presumably antedates the formation of the present valley system. Incidentally, I may mention that I have found on the hill-top a small piece of abraded Upper Greensand chert and small pebbles of flint and quartzite.

Resuming, I do not see how we can escape the conclusion that the before-mentioned flaked and abraded flints, if not the unabraded flints also, prove the existence of man at a time which is very distinctly separated from and anterior to the palæolithic age of the valley drifts. They seem also to point to the fact that although we have discovered the handiwork of human beings who may be described as pre-palæolithic, we have not yet got back to a time when some individuals of the race could not make a flaked implement of palæolithic type; unless, indeed, such gravels as those near Reading and at Alderbury Hill, near Salisbury, can be shown to be of earlier date than the drift of Hackpen Hill.

The eolithic implements, flaked pieces and flakes, whilst they prove, according to the argument of this paper, the existence of pre-palæolithic man or man before the present river valley system, do not, it may be said, of themselves necessitate the human authorship of the work on the merely trimmed flints.

Have these ruder pieces been trimmed by the hand of man?

To begin with, we have no absolute proof that man made the flaked implements. But, short of absolute proof, the evidence is so strong and of such a kind that we should be unreasonable if we refused it. Such evidence we accept, as a matter of fact, in a hundred other matters and few are found to quarrel with it.

We judge, in the first place, by analogy. We perceive that if we strike a piece of fresh chalk flint, or even a tougher piece, with a direct blow near its edge and on a flattish surface, the piece that comes off has a bulb of percussion exactly similar to that on many pieces of flint in the river gravels. We notice, also, that a hollow

place of greater or less depth, is left upon the parent block and that this hollow often shows tiny ripple marks curving away from the direction of the blow. We know of no power than can produce like results save that of force applied in the form of a blow, unless it were very direct and consistent pressure at one particular point. From the likeness of the results, therefore, and the absence of evidence of any other possible cause, we decide in the case of the flakes or single pieces struck off that a like cause must have produced them in both ancient and modern times.

We next find that some of the flints from the river gravels are covered with ripple-marked hollows, and must, therefore, have received a large number of blows. In the cases of single pieces which have been struck off from a parent block, we admit to ourselves the possibility, so far as our argument has at present gone, that one of the forces of Nature, such as violent river action, may have struck off the flake. But we notice that in the case of those flints which are covered with hollows resulting from blows, the said hollows are so shallow and at such an angle to the edge of the stone, that a method and a skill must have been required for the majority of the strokes such as no power of Nature in our experience is capable of giving under existing or pre-existing circumstances. Experiment, at the same time, proves to us that man is capable of producing to-day similar flaked stones with no other tools than such as primitive man may have found to hand. In addition to the foregoing evidence, we notice that the implements are of a convenient shape for use in the cutting, boring, scraping, &c., of such articles as ancient man must have needed to operate on.

By experiment, by our experience of the powers of nature and their work, and by a process of reasoning which may be described as common sense, and which, though it comes short of absolute proof, is practically unanswerable, we conclude that these stones have been flaked by an intelligent being.

Can arguments of similar weight be produced to show that man has operated on the trimmed, as distinct from flaked, pieces?

In my collection I have more than a thousand Knowle Farm Pit palæolithic implements from the best to the rudest. I have perhaps a like number of ruder pieces. There is no clear-cut dividing line between the two groups. Numbers of flaked implements have the trimmed edges. Other pieces precisely similar in form are trimmed only. Some pieces not of implemental shape are flaked and trimmed, other similar pieces are trimmed only. At this pit implements have been exceedingly numerous within a small space. Within the same space and in the same strata as the implements, the trimmed pieces are numerous or the reverse in exact proportion to the implements.

I have also searched pits in the Lea valley in Hertfordshire where, ordinarily, an implement is a very rare thing; and here, also, the trimmed pieces are correspondingly rare. What stronger proof can be forthcoming that man operated on these trimmed palæolithic pieces? Now, finally, ranged side by side in my cabinets with the Knowle Farm Pit trimmed, and trimmed and flaked pieces, are trimmed pieces from the top of Hackpen Hill which, as regards form and trimming, are perfect duplicates of the Knowle specimens. I may add that I shall be happy to show to any one interested in the subject my collection in which series after series and numberless details and comparisons bear witness to the truth of the above arguments.

H. G. O. KENDALL.

Africa, South : Archæology.

Johnson.

Note on a Stone Implement from the Embabaa Valley, South Africa. *By J. P. Johnson.*

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The occurrence of typical palæolithic (Acheulian) implements in the tin-bearing gravels of the Embabaa river was announced some time ago by Professor Rupert