

years since, by *James Wilkinson* then Bayliff of *St. Gilbert Wakering*, the *Lady Townsend* being Lady of the Manor of *Hilton, Tho. a Stokes* and *John a Stokes* brothers, both living *An. 1680*, then being present."

Their use was widespread in England and possibly continued to a later date in some parts, for in Lancashire as late as the 1890's it was not uncommon to subdue an erring child by threatening "to fill him with water and sit him on the fire until it boiled out of his mouth"—no doubt a reference to the hearth-blower.

I am greatly indebted to Dr. O. von Falke of the Schloss Museum, Berlin, for much of the information here presented, and to W. A. Smallcombe, B.Sc., Director of the Reading Museum, for valuable help and advice. I should also like to thank Miss M. M. Swadling of the Reading Public Library and H. S. Kingsford, Assistant Secretary to the Society of Antiquaries, for their kind assistance.

Archæological Notes.

A NEOLITHIC BOWL FROM PANGBOURNE.

In 1928 fragments of pottery associated with human and other bones were unearthed at "Farmhill," Courtlands Hill, Pangbourne, Berks. (Stuart Piggott: "Neolithic Pottery and other remains from Pangbourne and Caversham." *Prehist. Soc., East Anglia*. Vol. VI. Pt. 1, P. 30, 1928.)

The sherds were known to be from a large round bottomed bowl with at least 4 lugs. Some important pieces were missing when dug, whilst war damage (1942) accounted for the loss of several more. In 1947 I was able to reconstruct and assemble the bowl, which is on view in the permanent collection at Reading Museum (75.28).

W. A. SMALLCOMBE.

A FLINT FLAKE FROM ASTON TIRROLD.

The unusually fine flake implement illustrated in the accompanying figure was found in December 1947 by a Mr. Farey, of Crowmarsh, on low-lying alluvial land half a mile to the east of Aston Tirrold Church, Berks. He has presented it to Reading Museum, where it bears the accession number 2.48.

The implement which is $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches long is made from dark greenish grey translucent flint. It is neatly trimmed along both edges. It was submitted to Dr. Grahame Clark, who is of the opinion that the secondary trimming suggests an Early Bronze Age date.

I wish to thank Reading Museum for permission to publish this find.

A. E. P. COLLINS.

A BRONZE HANGING-BOWL FROM MILTON, BERKS.

Included in the Bronze Age section of the old accessions register at Reading Museum, under the number AL.50, is a piece of sheet bronze. Described as "part of a bronze helmet," it was found at Milton Field, Berks., and was loaned to the museum by Mr. Eli Caudwell of Blewbury in 1906. The late Mr. Harold Peake must have noticed it among the museum collections and realised something of its true nature; on p. 212 of his "Archæology of Berkshire," he records "half of rim of bronze cauldron" from Milton Fields. Examination of this rim fragment shows that it is clearly part of a hanging-bowl of the type discussed by Mr. T. D. Kendrick ("British Hanging Bowls," *Antiquity*, 1932, VI, 161-84).

Little remains of the Milton example but half of the rim and ragged fragments of the body of the bowl. The rim originally had a diameter of $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. In profile it is the simple everted type above a shallow constriction $\frac{1}{4}$ in. high, similar to that seen on the Finningley bowl illustrated in Kendrick's Fig. 2. Situated in this narrow "neck" or constriction are three irregularly spaced rivets of bronze with heads about one sixteenth of an inch in diameter. There are also three empty rivet holes, one through the "neck" and two through the body of the bowl; these are suitably placed for rivets to hold an escutcheon with hook for suspension. What is left of the body of the bowl is too little and too distorted for any exact reconstruction of its shape, but what remains is consistent with a shallow, almost hemispherical, form.

Various Romano-British and Pagan Saxon finds have been made in Milton Field in the past. A Roman fibula is recorded on the Six-inch Ordnance Survey map. Several Anglo-Saxon graves appear also to have been discovered in the middle of the 19th century (J. Y. Ackerman, "Report on . . . an Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Long Wittenham, Berkshire," *Archæologia*, 1860, XXXVIII, 328. Apparently the two circular jewelled brooches of Kentish type illustrated by Peake came from this site (*The Archaeology of Berkshire* (London, 1931), Fig. 27). It is thus not impossible that this hanging-bowl was originally part of the grave-furniture of an early Anglo-Saxon grave, like the well-known example from Lowbury Hill, Berks. (Donald Atkinson, *The Romano-British Site on Lowbury Hill, Berkshire*, (Reading, 1916), pl. V.). Geographically, the Milton find lies more or less midway between the Lowbury example and that from Liddington, Wilts.

My thanks are due to Reading Museum for facilities in studying this specimen.

A. E. P. COLLINS.