

## STONE AXE-HAMMER FOUND AT DERBY.

In November, 1931, a workman digging a drain for new houses on the Sinfin estate of the Derby Corporation, found a fine specimen of a stone axe-hammer in undisturbed clay about two feet below the soil. The implement measures  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. by 3 in., and is drilled for a haft, the hole being  $1\frac{3}{8}$  in. diameter.

Stone implements of this type were made during the bronze age and not earlier, as many of them are based on bronze forms. Generally, as in this case, the hole has been bored with a tubular drill of bronze, or bone, turned with a bow. The stone seems to be a fine-grained millstone grit, and there does not appear to be the slightest sign of use at either end, in fact it must have been lost very soon after it was made. Some poor man spent a long time shaping this implement or weapon, and before he had time to make use of it, he either lost it or fell a victim to the prowess of an enemy. It is now in the Derby Museum.

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WALL PAINTINGS AT DALE CHURCH.

The parish of Dale Abbey lies 6 miles east-north-east of Derby and is one of the most interesting villages in the county. First, there is the 'hermit's cave,' where Cornelius the 'hermit of Depedale' is said to have made his home in the early half of the 12th century, then there are the ruins of the abbey, including the arch of the east window of the chancel, and lastly the church with its attached church-house.

Dale Church is best described by that misused word 'quaint,' for quaint it is in every sense of the word. In size it is extremely small, while the little interior is filled with high-backed pews and a loft, or gallery