

NEOLITHIC AND BRONZE AGE MAN, IN WEST SURREY.

BY FRANK LASHAM.

IN the last issue of the journal of the Surrey Archaeological Society I described the discovery of evidences of Palæolithic (Old Stone) man in West Surrey; it is proposed in this paper to give some details of the implements and habitats of his successor, so far as they have come under the observation of the writer, in a similar portion of the county.

Modern pre-historic archæologists are somewhat at variance with regard to the data of Neolithic (or New Stone men). The majority hold that he "arrived" in this country, others again would trace his descent, as Mr. J. Allen Brown does in the *Journal of the Anthropological Institute*, Vol. XXII, Nos. 1 and 2, from his predecessor, the Cave and Palæolithic type. Both of these latter are assumed, however, by many—amongst others, Professor Boyd Dawkins—to have been swept out of existence. By recent discoveries, however, it would seem possible that after all the new theory of continuity may be correct. Scarce as are Palæolithic implements in West Surrey, it cannot be said that Neolithic man has not left numerous traces of his presence, as nearly everywhere evidences are to be found of his existence. It is generally conceded that the Neolithic period of the stone age may be divided into two sections, from the nature of the implements; first, the roughly chipped large whitened implements, celts, scrapers, etc., and secondly, the polished stone with better worked, finer and smaller scrapers, arrow heads, etc. In taking a survey of the portion of the county under consideration, we find the River Wey waters the greater portion.

The Neolithic folk selected dry, sandy slopes with a



RODSALL (ROTENHAM)

HAMBLEDON (GODALMS)

SHOELANDS (SEALE)

SHOELANDS.

SHOELANDS.

EASHING



EASHING.

CHANTRY (TILFORD)

SHACKLEFORD

EASHING.

EASHING.

WANBOROUGH



HURTMORE (GODALMS)

LAYHOOK (TILFORD)

SHOELANDS

HURTMORE

CROOKSBURY (FARNHAM)

ELSTEAD



SHOELANDS

SHOELANDS

POSTFORD (CHILWORTH)

ELSTEAD - SAW

ELSTEAD - SAW

ARROW HEADS - WEST SURREY FROM SKETCHES BY F. LASHAM.

FIG. 9.

southern aspect, near rivers, pools or springs for their camps, and the nature of the country watered by the River Wey would appear to have been favourable to these later stone age people. Assuming that it is correct to divide the Neolithic stage of culture into two stages, we find that the South Downs, the chalk ridge of hills running through Surrey into Kent, is productive of implements of the older class, called by Mr. J. Allen Brown — Mesolithic. A collection gathered from these apparently inhospitable and exposed sources reveals the fact of a large population, who either resided on these slopes; then possibly clothed with vast forests and down land, or else lived in the contiguous valleys. Implements of the Mesolithic type are much larger and rougher, and are badly shaped, strongly approximating to the Palæolithic in rudeness and general characteristics, they are “plough stained,” and often found at the heights of from 500 to 700 feet above the mean sea level. A collection made by Mr. Mangles from the East Hampshire hills, at Ropley, is characteristic, many of the implements being apparently very ancient, although they do not except in the case of the smaller shapes approximate in form toward the Palæolithic type. In the Charterhouse Museum is a collection gathered from the slopes of the Hog’s Back, Puttenham, which is equally characteristic of this period, and there have also been found by myself rough flakes, and one well-formed, whitened scraper, on the slopes of the chalk ridges near the foot of St. Martha’s Hill, near Guildford; other implements, including rough celts, scrapers, pounders, cores and flakes, have also been found here. They are very distinct from the types found on the sandy ridges of the more sheltered hills and valleys, and are like the Ropley specimens. The same type is again met with on the cultivated down land, near Eastbourne; at Cissbury near Worthing, and other localities. If, then, there be a connecting link between the Palæolithic and Neolithic ages, evidently these implements fill the gap. Some of the specimens under consideration are exceedingly rude, and may well be classed as for tillage purposes, and it is

not unlikely that such use was the case with many of them. That they are exceedingly ancient is evidenced by their appearance and general character. It is probable that many of the pits that have been dug apparently for chalk, on the sides of the chalk ridges, have been made in mining flints by these early Neolithic men, and a careful examination of some of these pits might reveal workings, as at Cissbury, near Worthing, and Grimes Graves, Norfolk, and other places.

Leaving this early stage of culture we now enter upon what may be called the later Neolithic period. There are a number of spots around Guildford which have revealed implements of more or less defined character. At the foot of the Chantries (the Guildford end) is what may be fairly called a Neolithic settlement; constant search upon the surface of one field has resulted in the finding of fifty scrapers, twenty-four hollow scrapers, eleven small saws, six boring tools, five rough arrow heads, two pounding stones, three sling stones, four strikers, two punches, ten cores, and upward of two hundred flakes. Proceeding along the Pilgrims' Way, which here crosses through the Chantries—this Way may, it is suggested, be called a pre-historic track Way—we come to a field, marked on the Ordnance Map as Whinny Hill; here have been found a portion of a flint celt, a fine scraper, flakes, a fragment of water-worn Romano-British pottery, etc. On a field close to St. Martha's occurred flakes, and part of a polished celt. At a field above Lockner Holt, Chilworth, at the edge of Blackheath, cores, scrapers and many flakes, some very minute; these latter evidently débris from working arrow heads, a fine implement of that class being found at this spot by Mr. T. Howse, F.L.S. (figured on the plate of arrow heads). Fig. 9.

Blackheath, Chilworth, has yielded numerous cores and flakes, which are bleached of a peculiar whiteness. Lieut.-Col. Godwin-Austen, F.R.S., read a paper on these finds before the Anthropological Institute in 1881; he says, "in the course of his investigations he found upwards of 276 pieces of flint showing signs of workmanship, that

is, cores, flakes, fragments, etc." In reply, after the discussion which ensued, the author said he had not made any attempt to fit any of the flakes together upon the cores, as had been successfully done with some collections of flint implements collected on spots where they were manufactured. The ground at Blackheath had been so turned over and disturbed that only a few now lie on the surface; the majority are buried again in the sand. With reference to the time since they were fashioned, it must be considerable, as they lie quite a foot below the present surface, evidently an old one, covered with sand and the darker mould in which the present heather is growing. There are no signs of earthworks on the hill tops or in the immediate neighbourhood.

Close to Guildford, scrapers and rough implements have been found on most of the fields, but the high state of cultivation of the neighbourhood precludes the possibility of finding anything but "evidences" of man's presence. A small polished flint celt was found in making the new railway at Guildford, and is in my collection.



FIG. 3.
"Tanged" Arrow
Head, Tilford.

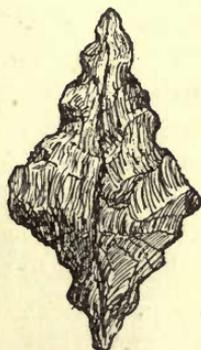


FIG. 4.
Barbed Arrow
Head, Tilford.

Another fine implement, beautifully shaped, is from Wisley (fig. 2); this approximates in form toward celts of the Bronze age; I have also a smaller celt from the same district, and it appears that several others have been found embedded in the peaty soil of this neighbourhood.

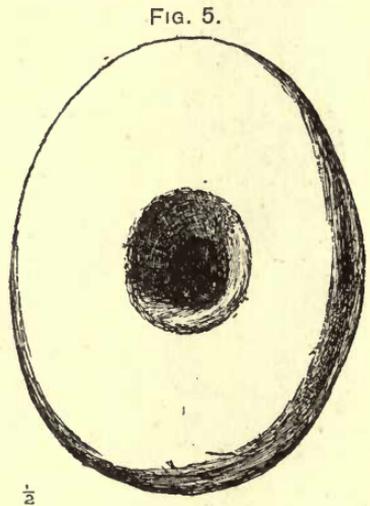
At Tilford, Farnham, have been found a number of roughly chipped celts, some triangular; a number of arrow heads, and numerous scrapers and other tools. In my collection are five celts from this district. A

curious tanged arrow head (fig 3) and a barbed point (fig. 4) are from Tilford.

At Ash, near Farnham, a fine polished flint celt (fig. 1) was found by two men engaged in grubbing up the base of a tree; it fell from the earth as the roots left the soil, and must evidently have been lost by the owners, as it is exceptionally perfect; it weighs $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. General Pitt Rivers, F.R.S., has in his museum at Farnham (Dorset) a fine celt discovered by him at St. Martha's, Guildford, during some excavations. Many celts and other implements have also been found at Wanborough, of which the Rev. G. S. Davies, in his paper on Surrey local names, read before the Charterhouse Literary Society, says:

"Just over the Hog's Back, about 4 miles hence, lies one of the prettiest hamlets in Surrey, called Wanborough, noted at present for its beautiful springs and its small church and fine old farm buildings. It is, says Kemble, one of the most interesting places in England, and has been occupied successively and in all probability, for religious purposes, by every race who have inhabited this island. The old stone men have left their traces in the innumerable flint weapons and flakes, which cover the surface of the earth all round the springs. In Major Tredcroft's garden are the remains of a Roman building, villa or temple. The Saxons consecrated it to their God Woden, and was written anciently Wodnesbeorh now corrupted into Wanborough."

The implements from this locality are generally ochreous and have a high polish; the Museum of the Charterhouse contains several specimens from this district. In the



HAMMER STONE - NORMANDY SURREY

valley below Wanborough lies the hamlet of Normandy;



FIG. 1.

Polished Flint Celt, Ash, Farnham.

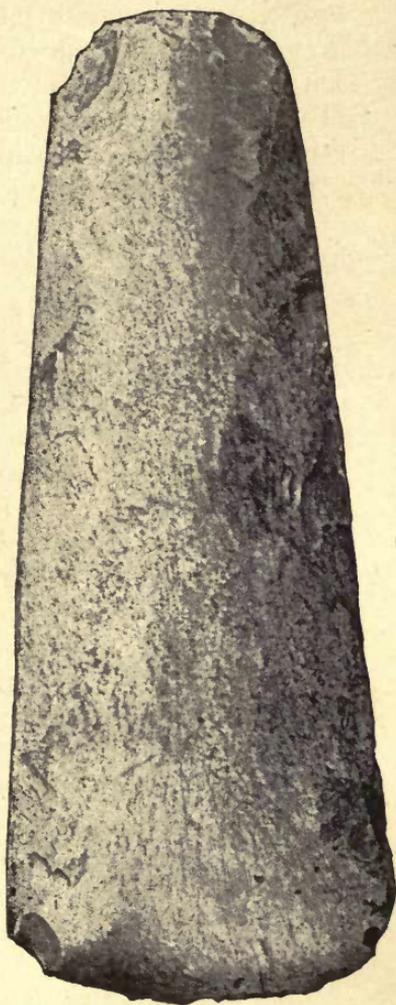


FIG. 2.

Polished Flint Celt, Wisley.

from here I have a drilled pebble (fig. 5); this was probably used as a hammer; it was found two feet below the surface. Another implement of similar character is in the Charterhouse collection, and was found at the Peasemarsch, near Godalming; another stone, partially drilled through, was picked up at Blackdown (Anstead Brook), and a broken one was found at Albury.

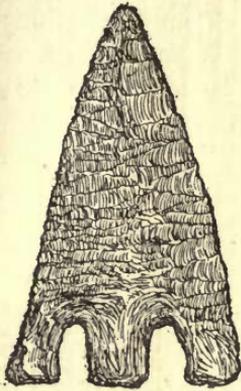


FIG. 5A.
Seale.



FIG. 8.
"Double Tanged
Arrow Head,
Elstead.

The Rev. C. Kerry made the first collection of Neolithic implements from the district around Puttenham, and his collection was placed in the Charterhouse Museum.

Mr. S. Alden, formerly of Shoelands, Seale, also made a collection from his neighbourhood, of celts, arrow heads; several of the latter are figured upon the plate of these implements (fig. 9). From Seale three fine specimens are figured (figs. 5A, 6, 7); these are from Mr. Mangles' collection.



FIG. 6.
Seale.



FIG. 7.
Seale.

Arrow heads, etc., have also been found at Crooksbury (Farnham), Shackleford, Frensham, Greenhills (Farnham), Waverley (Farnham), Elstead; a curious double tanged point is shown (fig. 8). Brit

Hill, Elstead, Eashing, Hambledon, Hurtmore (Godalming), and Whitmore Common (Guildford), several of these are reproduced on the plate of arrow heads (fig. 9).

Flakes, etc., have also been found at Snowdenham Farm, Bramley; in fact, localities where evidences of Neolithic man exist are abundant. I have in my collection a very interesting core of flint (fig. 10); this was dug up at Stoke, Guildford, and is very similar in shape to cores of obsidian; it is perfect, and evidently the flint workers of that period were well up to their work.

We turn to the next epoch in the pre-historic era, known as the Bronze age; this period is only fairly represented in the district under consideration. At Crooksbury Hill, near Farnham, a bronze hoard was unearthed some few years ago, but it has been impossible to learn anything regarding it. A bronze celt found below the surface at Stoke, Guildford, is now in the Charterhouse collection (fig. 12), and another smaller celt (fig. 11) was turned up in the same locality during the progress of the new drainage works.

A bronze celt (fig. 13) was also found at Wanborough, in trenching near the spring, and there have been a number of specimens found at Farley Heath, near Albury; these are at the British Museum, and in private hands. In Sir John Evans' work on *Ancient Bronze Implements*, a celt which is figured, is stated to have been found near Guildford, and is in the collection of Mr. R. Fitch, F.S.A. Sir John Evans also mentions that a plain socketed celt, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, was found in digging gravel near Cæsar's Camp, Combe Wood, Surrey, and that it is now in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries.

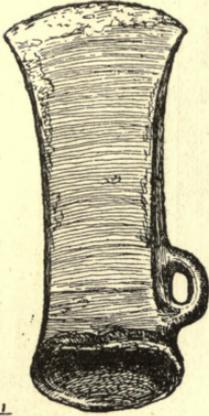
Fig. 10.



FLINT CORE, STOKES - GUILDFORD

A bronze sword "A narrower blade (12 inches), with the rivet holes cutting through the base, was also found at Cæsar's Camp, Farnham."

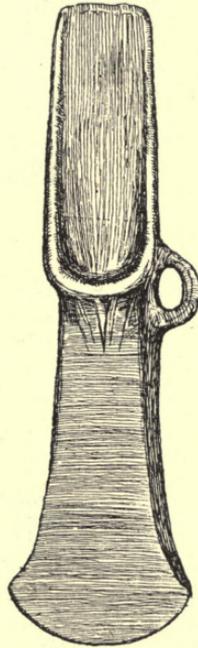
FIG. 11.



$\frac{1}{2}$
BRONZE CELT-GUILDFORD.

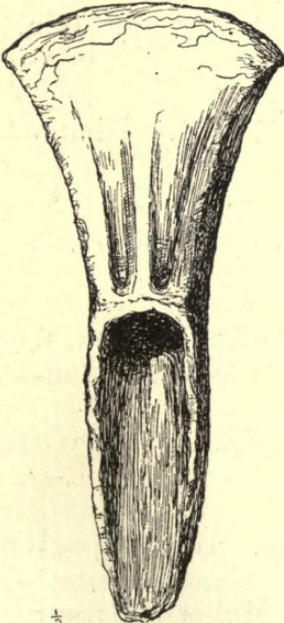
Of the early Iron age there seem little or no traces, but it may be possible that if inquiries are made some

FIG. 12.



$\frac{1}{2}$
BRONZE CELT-STOKE GUILDFORD.

FIG. 13.



$\frac{1}{2}$
BRONZE CELT-WANBORO'

evidences may be forthcoming. It is hoped to treat on this epoch in a future paper, which will take in consideration Camps, Tumuli, Earthworks, and Romano-British settlements in West Surrey.