

## SECOND REPORT OF THE BARROW COMMITTEE.

*SECOND REPORT of the Committee—consisting of Mr. C. Spence Bate, Mr. G. Doe, Mr. P. O. Hutchinson, Mr. E. Parfitt, Mr. W. Pengelly, Mr. J. Brooking Rowe, and Mr. R. N. Worth (Secretary)—to collect and record facts relating to Barrows in Devonshire, exclusive of Dartmoor, and to take steps where possible for their investigation.*

Edited by R. N. WORTH, F.O.S., Honorary Secretary.

(Read at Totnes, July, 1899.)

YOUR Committee beg to report that, having placed upon record the Barrow Literature of the County, so far as it could be ascertained, they resolved that the next step to be taken by them was the collection of facts concerning the Barrows that still exist, and such investigations as had not hitherto been permanently recorded. At the request of the Committee, therefore, Mr. P. O. Hutchinson kindly undertook to prepare a report on the Barrows in the neighbourhood of Sidmouth, and the Association is hence indebted to him for an exceedingly valuable statement of original enquiry and research, thoroughly exhaustive of the district under review, the value of which is greatly enhanced by the admirable map and illustrations which accompany the text. The Committee hope in time to be able to extend their enquiries on the lines so well laid down by Mr. Hutchinson, to the whole of that part of Devon which lies within their sphere of operation.

The Committee are also indebted to two others of their number, Mr. Parfitt and Mr. Doe:—Mr. Parfitt for an account of the partial exploration of Barrows at Upton Pyne, at which he was present; and Mr. Doe for a description of Barrows at Burrington.

EDWARD PARFITT, Chairman, *pro tem.*  
R. N. WORTH, Hon. Sec.

## EXPLORATION OF BARROWS IN THE PARISH OF UPTON PYNE.

SEPTEMBER 18TH, 1879.

THE barrows referred to in this communication are situate on a farm called Stephenstone, the property of Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P., and occupied by Mr. Huggens. The field in which they lie is called "Nine Oaks." The barrows are three in number, and lie in line in the direction of east and west. The two to which we directed our attention were the first and the last. The centre one was explored about ten years ago by one of our members, the late Rev. J. Kirwan, who found in it a bronze pin and an amulet or necklace of beads, formed of perforated bits of shale, and one fusiform central bead, and a portion of the stem of an encrinure or fossil sea lily. This latter was probably obtained from Westleigh, where fragments of these stems are not uncommon in the blocks of limestone. The large bead is worked in chevron pattern. These, with a very perfect little incense cup found in another barrow, were presented to the Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, by Sir Stafford Northcote, and are figured and described in our volumes for the years 1869-70.

The barrows at present under consideration were each about 140 feet wide east and west, and about 120 north and south. Having been so long subject to the action of the plough and harrow they form but slight elevations now; but from the mass of soil spread out around them they must formerly have been considerable mounds.

On Thursday, September 18th, in the presence of Sir Stafford Northcote, H. Northcote, Esq., the Rev. A. F. Northcote, and several other gentlemen, we began operations by cutting a trench four feet wide in an east and west direction. At about ten feet from the centre, and about twelve to fourteen inches deep, we came to a stratum very much blackened, apparently by the action of fire. This was continued to about the same distance from the centre all round. Below this we came to evidently burnt earth, mixed with fragments of charred wood. There were mixed with this burnt earth some patches of clay. From the admixture of these we were of opinion that this barrow had been opened; but we found no proof of this. However, we found nothing in this trench. We then determined to cut another at right angles to this, which was done. We found in one place on the north side quite a little heap of rather coarse charcoal;

but this was all. We did not see a fragment of pottery or of bone. Not finding anything in these trenches, we had the angles of the trenches removed, so as to clear a large space in the centre; but this also proved abortive. The barrow had probably been opened at some former time, of which we have had no information.

It was now late in the afternoon, but we determined to try the other barrow. As, however, we had not time enough before dark, we thought it best to sink a hole as near the centre as possible. We then had a hole dug, about six feet wide, and sunk down; and carefully noting the excavation, we soon came to earth that had evidently been burned or subjected to the action of fire, very like the first that we had explored. At about four feet six inches from the top the workmen came to what we at first imagined was a cairn or heap of stones. Great care was then exercised for fear of disturbing this imaginary cairn, but as we progressed we found that the stones really consisted of a flooring or pavement of pieces of what is called "iron pan," veins of which are so frequent in the New Red Sandstone; these pieces were all covered with a blackened crust, and on fracturing some of them they showed a very bright red line for about one-fourth of their thickness, such as would be produced by the action of fire having been burnt on them; this flooring extended beyond our excavation on all sides, but night coming on we were obliged to abandon our exploration.

E. PARFITT.

#### BURRINGTON BARROWS.

On the 28th May, 1880, being "on pleasure bent," I made a pilgrimage to two barrows, situate in a field at the north-west corner of the parish of Burrington. The field, formerly part of "Burrington Moor," \* where, says Lysons, "are many barrows," lies on the left side of the highway, leading from the old Barnstaple and Exeter turnpike road to Dolton Beacon, about three miles distant from the Portsmouth Arms Railway Station, on an elevated track of table land, commanding an extensive prospect, bounded on the south by Cawsand Beacon and Yes Tor.

The large barrow, which is almost close to the road, is about eighty feet in diameter and six feet in height, and appears to have been partially opened some years since, for there is on its summit a depression of the depth of nearly three feet in the centre.

\* First Report of Barrow Committee, *Trans. Devon Assoc.*, vol. xi. p. 148.

The other barrow stands about fifty-four feet south-east of its neighbour, being equal to it in diameter, but about two feet less in height.

This also seems to have been partially opened. It is impossible to give a definite statement of the original height and contour of these mounds, as they have been certainly more than once subjected to the plough.

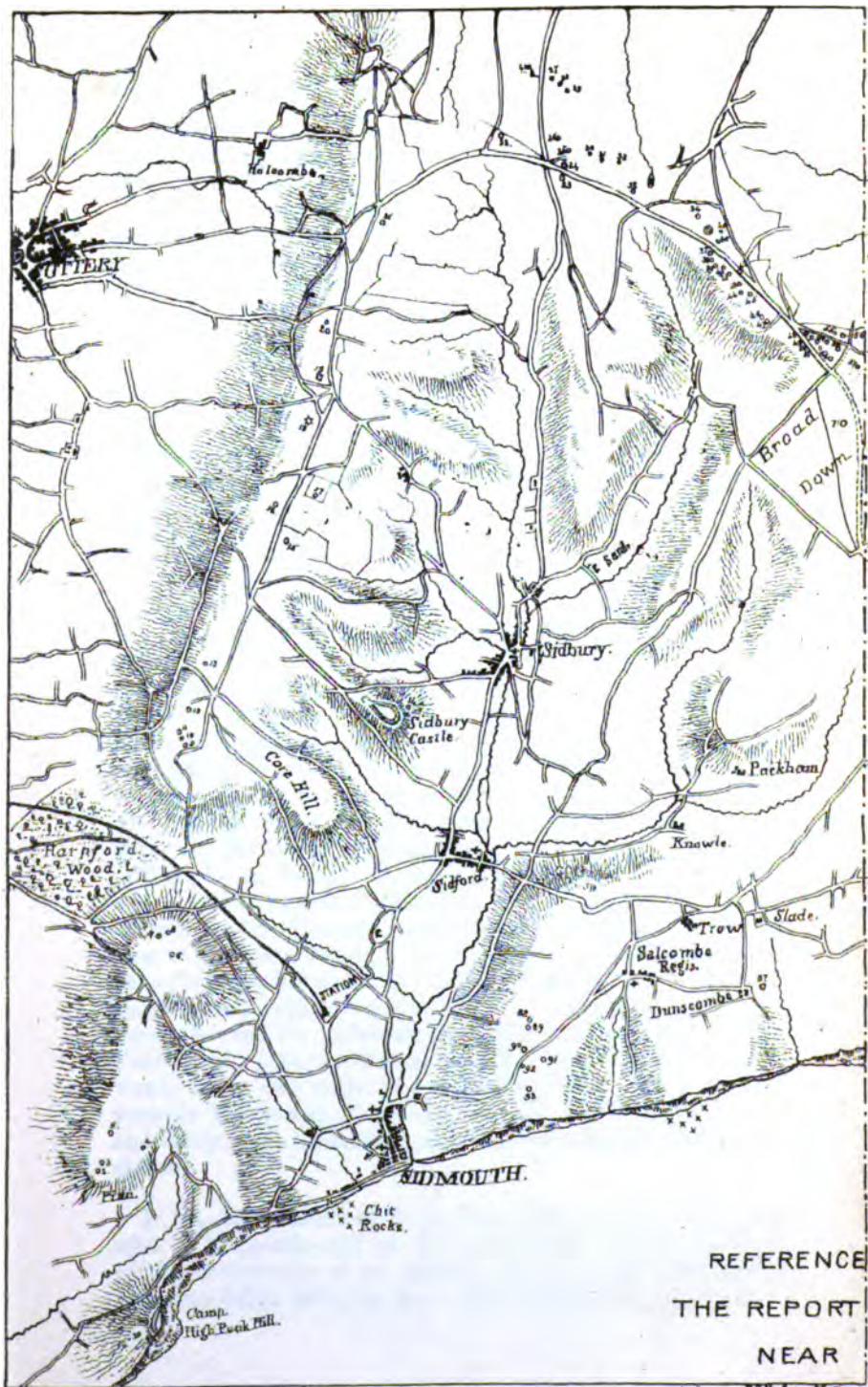
GEO. DOE.

#### REPORT ON BARROWS NEAR SIDMOUTH.

As a contribution towards the general stock of information on the subject of the barrows still remaining in this county, I beg to send to the Committee some account of those that are found on the hills near Sidmouth. On throwing my notes together I am amazed to find that during the last thirty years I have visited and plotted down no less than ninety-three barrows, all lying within a radius of six miles of Sidmouth. In these expeditions I have been almost always in company with our member, Mr. Heineken; for we have been in the habit of pursuing our antiquarian researches together. Both Woolcombe and Lysons had an idea that there were more tumuli on the north than on the south side of Devon (*Trans.* xi. 147); but it may be a question where so many as ninety-three could be found, all confined within a half-circle, struck with a radius of six miles. An account of these barrows would be valueless to the Committee or to the general reader without some sort of reference map to point out the localities where they lie, or how any particular one might be found. It was necessary therefore to supply one. And in respect of the objects met with in some of the barrows on the Honiton range of hills, it will be an advantage to give sketches of them, inasmuch as where they have been depicted before, errors in the dimensions and measurements have inadvertently crept in. In distributing the numbers over the reference map, No. 1 is placed on High Peak Hill. The increasing numbers then proceed northwards along the ridge of Ottery East Hill, then eastward towards Northleigh, then south to the sea at Branscombe, and lastly, west back again to Sidmouth, thus completing the circuit.

1. On the summit of High Peak Hill, a mile and a half west of Sidmouth, and on the coast, there remains a portion of the earthworks of an ancient camp, though the greater part has fallen into the sea. Just outside the west end of





REFERENCE  
THE REPORT  
NEAR







the great agger, and on the platform before the second descent, there is a heap of stones only slightly jutting above the ground. I am not very confident that this is a tumulus at all; but I think it right to point it out for the consideration of others.

2. Pin Beacon. The word pin comes from the ancient vill of Penne, Pyn, and Pinn (in the valley below), mentioned in the *Otterton Cartulary* from 1260 to 1300. There are two large mounds on the ridge of the hill, having all the appearance of having originally been regular burial heaps; but they do not show any traces of ever having been examined. From time immemorial they have been known as Beacons, perhaps by heaping wood on them, and setting it on fire. The heap nearest the south point of the hill is called the Old Beacon. About 1810 this point was planted with fir trees. One of the largest, measured by the apomecometer (see *Student* for April, 1869), proved to be 55 feet high, and 4 feet 3 inches in circumference. Rather more than fifty yards north of this there is an earthwork drawn across the ridge of the promontory, and running down on each side till it meets with modern fences, thus cutting off the Old Beacon from any approach along the level of the ridge on the north. This earthwork is an agger, with a ditch on each side; but it is too large for an ordinary hedge, and from its position looks more like a defensive work. A gap has been cut in the middle, and the earth thrown aside.

3. At about forty yards north of this work stands the New Beacon, so called. This is a mound similar to the former. On digging slightly into the summits of these places they were found to be composed of the fox-mould of the greensand formation, here immediately lying on the red marl, and a few pieces of charcoal were met with. The trees round this Beacon were planted about 1830. The next enclosure, further north, was planted with young trees in 1867.

4. A mound on the open moor of rather doubtful appearance.

5. This is a tumulus of medium size on the open heath. It does not appear to have ever been meddled with.

6. A cairn of dry, white, angular chert and flints, common to the neighbourhood. It has been somewhat disturbed, and it is nearly concealed by weeds, bushes, and fern.

7. A cairn of dry flints is said to have been removed from this spot about the commencement of the present century for the sake of the materials. There remains nothing now

but a circular depression in the ground 18 inches deep, and 33 feet in diameter, overgrown with heath in a plantation. I could never learn any particulars of the removal. Whether a cyst still remains under the surface in the centre could only be proved by excavation; but the probability is small. Bulverton Hill here attains a height of 694 feet above the sea level. To reach this place from Sidmouth go by way of Cotmaton and Bickwell to Salter's Cross, and then into the plantation over the gate on the right.

8. A few yards from the former lies a large scattered heap of dry flints. Portions have occasionally been carried away within memory. The heads of two or three large blocks of flint breccia, common to the hills here, formerly jutting above the smaller stones, and may have indicated the likelihood of a kist-vaen; but they were pulled up and removed shortly before 1868. No proper examination has been made. The land forms part of the Bicton estate. On visiting the spot recently I find that in 1879 the whole of the interior part, comprising an area 66 feet in diameter, was removed. I cannot discover whether anything was met with.

9. At about 200 paces south from the bifurcation near No. 12, and 73 from the road (hoping I paced it correctly), there is a low barrow, five yards in diameter.

10. The next, close to it towards the north-west, is eight yards in diameter.

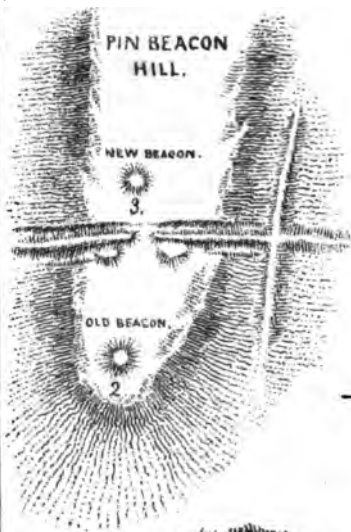
11. At 23 paces further on in the same direction there is a small one, only three yards in diameter. Had not the heath and furze been recently burnt off the hill they would scarcely have been detected at first.

12. On the west slope of the hill at this place a man living close by said there were formerly two or three "stone barrows," but that they had all, or nearly all, been removed.

13. This is the remains of a stone barrow or cairn of dry flints, lying on the steep side of the hill on the open moor, just above the cottage. (*MS. Diary*, October 10th, 1871.)

14. The Treasury, so called, in the plantation on the Sidbury side of Sidbury Castle. It is a cairn of dry flints that has been considerably tampered with on the top, under the common but silly idea that treasure lies buried there, but the kist-vaen or central interment has certainly not been reached. It is also called the Money Heap. The land belongs to Sir Stephen Cave, G.C.B., M.P. Several legends are current in Sidbury and the neighbourhood respecting the crock of gold said to be buried there, and the attempts that at different times have been made to get it; but they are too long to





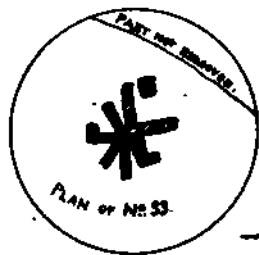
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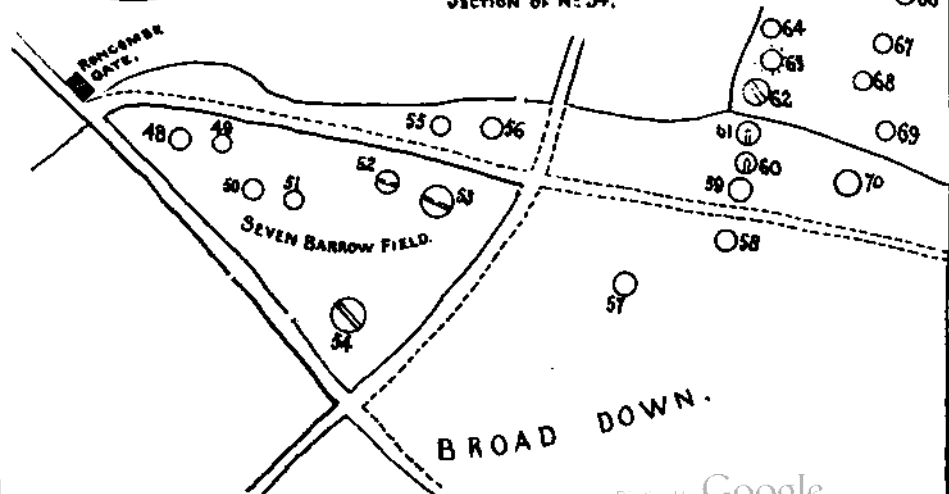
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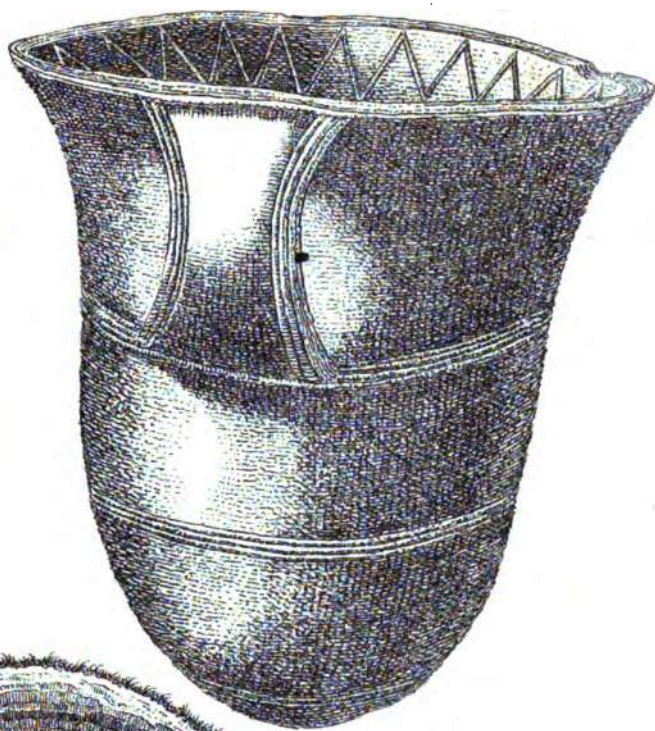


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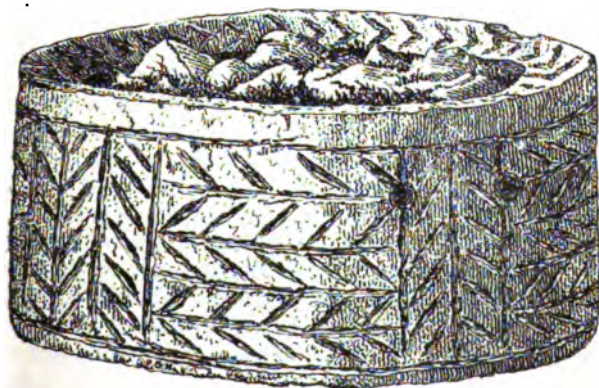
DRINKING CUP

From Barrow N<sup>o</sup> 53.

FULL SIZE.



SECTION OF N<sup>o</sup> 53.



CLAY VESSEL FULL OF CALCINED BONES,  
FROM N<sup>o</sup> 54. FULL SIZE.



SECTION OF 54.



insert here. I have collected them by degrees from Sidbury people. (See my MS. *History of Sidmouth*, vol. i. p. 47.)

15. At 782 yards, or nearly half a mile, north from the lane that comes up from Sidbury Castle, there is a cairn over the hedge in the plantation on the east side of the road. This distance was estimated one day, when out with Mr. Heineken, by counting the revolutions of the carriage wheel, and going through an arithmetical calculation accordingly. The cairn is apparently of dry flints, but it is very much grown over with heath. It has been slightly dug down on the side towards the hedge. (MS. *Diary*, where the original memoranda are inserted under July 20th, 1869, and October 10th, 1871. This *Diary* and my *History* are eventually destined for the Free Library of the Exeter Museum; but you must wait till I am dead.)

16. Of flints on the open heath, some forty or fifty yards on the west side of the road. A portion of its western side has been dug down and carried away, but no proper examination made.

17. A cairn of dry white flints close to the south hedge of a field. It is 57 feet in diameter. All the centre portion has been removed, and there are a number of large blocks of stone built into the base of the hedge, by which it may be inferred that the barrow was destroyed when the hedge was made, about 1830. It is just possible that something might yet be met with if an excavation were made in the middle of the circular area. The land on the east side of the road belongs to Sir Stephen Cave.

18. This is a large barrow that has been fancifully cut into the form of a star of six points. (No. 18 in the plate.) The centre does not appear to have been touched. This form has been produced by scarping down the sides, so as to make a zigzag trench all round. Of course this is a modern operation. If it were done when the fir trees that grow on it were planted, judging by their size, perhaps it was about 1820.

19. A barrow with four points, the sides being incurvate. This barrow was probably planted and pared round at the same time the other was. One of the trees on it measured 52 feet high.

20. Tumulus by the road-side, still intact.

21. At about 200 or 300 yards south of the Ottery end of the Chineway Head Road, and in the plantation on the east side of the track on the hill, there is a mound among the trees. Nothing but actual search would find it.

22. A cairn of dry flints a few score yards to the east of a

cottage. The cottage is a lodge by the side of a road leading northward to Combe, the residence of the family of Marker, to whom the land for miles round this neighbourhood belongs. The heap had been very much disturbed, and portions abstracted, perhaps wherewith to build the cottage. What remained had a diameter of twenty-nine paces. (*Diary*, Aug. 7th, 1871.)

23. A barrow over the hedge in the plantation, on land belonging to Sir Stephen Cave. The Rev. R. Kirwan, late vicar of Gittisham, disturbed it about 1867, but made no careful examination, and found nothing. It is a pity that such operations should be permitted by the owners, as they lead to no result—they confuse the heap by mixing the soil, they destroy landmarks that would be valuable to more careful searchers, they endanger the safety of objects that may be buried there, and they spoil the chances of success to scientific examiners afterwards.

24. A very large tumulus on the north side of the road, on land belonging to Mr. Marker, of Combe. It appears never to have been attacked, and the beech and fir trees growing on it are of great age. Regard being had to its size, instead of a grave-hill, perhaps it was a speculum, teut-hill,\* or look-out station. At one period it was probably surrounded by a ditch; for a ditch with water in it still remains on its eastern side.

25. This barrow, at eighty paces north of the preceding, was opened August 20th, 1869, on the occasion of the visit of the British Association to Exeter, a party of whose members made an excursion to this hill. So large a slice of the afternoon, however, was consumed at the splendid collation in the tent near the six-mile stone, together with many other slices of a variety of good things, that there was no time left to complete the examination of the barrow, or even to open the kist-vaen. A trench from the south margin to the centre, and beyond the centre, had been run into this barrow the day before the meeting, in anticipation of the visit, under the direction of Mr. Kirwan, who lived near, and the black mould cleared away, down to the crown of a cairn or kist-vaen of flints. It was in this state that I saw it. It was intended to open the cairn or kist-vaen in the presence of the visitors, but they did not visit the spot. The earth was afterwards thrown in, and the trench filled up as before, and, to the best of my belief, the kist-vaen still remains intact and undisturbed.†

\* Teut-hill, from Teutates, the ancient British deity.

† *Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, vol. iv. p. 299, slightly mentioned at foot of page.



26. Still intact.

27. Situated at about 250 yards east of the mile-stone, six from Sidmouth, and three from Honiton; about sixty feet in diameter, and five high. It was opened on the same occasion as No. 25. I was on the hill at the diggings August 16th, 19th, and 21st, 1869. There was a top covering of soil, on which grew the wild heath, furze, and fern that overspreads the wide expanse of this hill; under this there was a stratum of white angular flints about a foot thick, which extended over the crown and south-west side; and then the body of the mound was made up of black peat earth, cut on the spot, and laid in moderately regular strata. Some flint flakes were met with, a Queen Anne's shilling, a beach-pebble sling-stone, some pieces of red ochre, with traces of charcoal and pottery. I also saw a large pebble, bruised on one side, probably a pounder or hammer stone, but this was afterwards lost sight of. It occurs to me to add that the direction of the cutting through this barrow was E. and W., or N.E. and S.W.—a point worth noting. (See *Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, vol. iv. p. 297, for Mr. Kirwan's account.)

28. From 50 to 100 yards S.E. from the preceding another was opened at the same time by running a trench from the S.E. into the centre. There were traces of cremation, but no deposit met with. A circle of large rough flints, from 12 to 18 inches long, had been set in open order, inside which had been raised a heap of earth; over this heap there was a layer or covering of the smaller angular stones of the hill; and lastly, over the whole, and extending beyond, and covering the ring of large stones, there was a considerable thickness of dark mould. Either beneath or beside one of the large stones four shapeless pieces of bronze were met with, weighing respectively  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz.,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  oz.,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  oz., and 10 oz. (*Op. cit.* iv. 297-8.)

29. A few yards further to the S.E. there is a circular patch of fern (the *Pteris aquilina*) surrounded by the furze and heath. There is no mound here, but the difference of vegetation suggests that something of the sort had been removed from this spot.

30. A barrow on the open heath 160 paces north of the road.

31. Another, 80 paces S.E. of 30.

32. A large and bold tumulus 130 feet in diameter and 13 high. It is mostly overgrown with fine grass, and a few, I think four, aged and weird-looking fir-trees occupy its summit. It is surrounded near its base by a hedge between two ditches. This enclosure was probably made when the

trees were planted. The mound does not appear to have been dug into.

33. A barrow wholly made up of the black mould or bog-earth of the hill, which had been cut in clods and laid in tolerably even strata. The greater part of this mound was removed soon after 1850, and the fine mould used for agricultural purposes on the fields lying on the south side of the road. About a quarter of the mound was left on its N.E. side. During one of the many visits paid to this spot I found within its area a flint flake of unusual appearance, remarkably broad and flat and symmetrically shaped, which I subsequently sent, with 100 others of my collecting, to the Exeter Museum. (*Diary*, July 24th, 1877.) On one occasion Mr. Heineken and myself took men from Sidmouth, and beginning in the middle of the level area, we first sunk a pit, and then ran trenches in radii in various directions; but, meeting with no discoveries, concluded that the men must have removed the burial remains when they removed the mound. This spot is 30 paces from the road, and a few score yards to the N.W. of the fifteen milestone from Exeter, and nearly south of the pond or swamp known as Ring-in-the-Mire. (*Ib.*, July 25th, 1854; and 33 in the plate annexed.)

34. A large and conspicuous barrow like No. 32. It lies at about 300 yards N.W. from that small circular intrenchment known as Farway Castle, on the flat but elevated crown of the hill, here about 800 feet above the Esplanade at Sidmouth. A few gaunt-looking fir-trees remain upon it, on the western-most of which the Ordnance surveyors fixed a staff in 1851 to assist in the triangulation of the country. A deep and narrow trench has been cut round the circumference of this barrow so as to enclose it, and the earth thrown up on each side. Like the case of the other, this was probably done to keep off cattle or trespassers when the trees were young. It does not appear that any attempt has been made to meddle with the centre. (Pl. No. 34.)

35. A low and small one on the open heath, 200 paces E. of Farway Castle.

36. Near the north side of the road.

37. Close to the south side of the road.

38. Low, and not strongly marked. It is so encumbered with furze bushes that observation is difficult.

39. This one, which is not large, is much concealed also.

40. These three last are near each other, and nearly in line. We must assume that they are barrows, but they are much hidden with bushes.

41. This barrow is 300 paces S.E. from the group of the three preceding, and 60 from the road.

42. The public road has been taken right through this tumulus, thus carrying away all the body or central portion of it, and leaving only two segments, being a piece on each side of the road. I take this to be the barrow spoken of by an old man living at the southern end of Broad Down, in a cottage near Rakeway Bridge, who told us he had attained the remarkable age of 89, and said that at nearly 100 years before the time at which he was then speaking (August 17th, 1859) the road over the Down from a mere track was improved, widened, and levelled as we see it in the present day, and that his grandfather was one of the men employed on the work; they cut through a barrow near Roncombe's Gurt; and on being asked whether they found anything in it, he replied, "No; nothing but an old taypot." This must have been the sepulchral urn. He admitted also some traces of bones and pieces of weapons. Some other men near Ring-in-the-Mire corroborated this, and said that they believed the objects found were carried to Netherton Hall, the seat of Sir Edmund Prideaux, Bart. Subsequent enquiry, however, has failed to get any tidings of them.

43. Untouched apparently. It is a small barrow 28 feet in diameter and three feet high. The furze had been burnt off it, otherwise it might have remained unnoticed. It is about 100 feet N.W. from 44.

44. A large tumulus 98 feet in diameter and seven high. There is a boundary-stone on the crown of it; and to all appearance no attempts at excavation have been made.

45. A comparatively small barrow, measuring 30 feet in diameter and three feet high, scarcely ten yards from the preceding large one. It is much covered with grass, heath, and furze. Walking over it July 18th, 1871, I stepped in among a covey of young partridges with their mother, and scared them dreadfully; but I drew off and allowed them to recover.

46. Two mounds, apparently barrows, first noticed by Mr. Heineken, lie close together beside the lane leading from the open heath down to Roncombe. They are on the unenclosed ground, and at 108 feet from the hedge of the cultivated land down the lane. No. 46 is 23 feet in diameter and two and a half high.

47. This is 30 feet across and three high. It is close to the road, and most of the central portion has been cleared out by a square excavation, probably for the sake of the materials.

This ends the western division of the barrows. Some 300 yards further eastward we come to the site of the old Roncombe Turnpike Gate. The hill contracts here to a narrow ridge, occupied by the road, the valley of Farway being on the north, and the precipitous and romantic chasm known as Roncombe Gurt, where rises one of the tributaries of the river Sid, on the south. There is a story current in the neighbourhood to the effect that about the beginning of the present century some smugglers, who were one night conveying some contraband spirits inland from the coast, met some excisemen on Broad Down, when a very severe struggle took place between them. One or more of the excisemen were killed, and their bodies thrown down the chasm. Some of the smugglers however were afterwards taken, tried, convicted, and hanged at Exeter.

But reverting to an earlier period, and taking a survey of the barrows scattered over these hills, it will be seen that they cluster most closely to the right and left of this ridge. If the ancient warriors who succumbed in battle had their burial mounds raised over the spots where they fell, as some archaeologists have stated, the number of barrows on each side of this narrow pass may well indicate that frequent and deadly contests took place on this debateable ground. A hostile tribe coming up on one side of the narrow neck would be resisted in its attempt to pass over by the tribe on the other side; and hence fierce and bloody battles would ensue. A glance at the map will show that all the roads on each side lead up or converge upon this point. This fact, and the adjacent clusters of grave mounds thickening in closeness as we draw near, are certainly not without their significance.

48. Having passed eastward over the neck we come to a three-cornered field, which, I believe, has been enclosed from the open moor within the present century. At my earliest recollection of this spot there were seven mounds within its area, all very perceptible; but the annual perseverance of the plough has well-nigh obliterated the four western ones, which were smaller than the others. No. 48 is a very low mound, scarcely visible except when the field has been ploughed and harrowed. The greater prevalence of an accumulation of white flints at this spot makes it more discernible at a little distance than at the mound itself.

49. The same remarks apply to this one.

50. The scattered white flints of the nucleus of this small and ploughed-down barrow first catch the eye when the

ground is bare. April 4th, 1871, I picked up a worked flint core near this spot. (*Diary.*)

51. This is the fourth grave mound in Seven-barrow Field (as I generally call this field for want of a better name), and the busy farmer has done his best to level them all. None of them appear to have been designedly opened, and it is just possible that the plough may have passed over any deposit; and if so, a careful examination promoted in the centre of any of them might turn up something. The land forms part of the Netherton Hall Estate, the property of the late Sir Edmund Prideaux, Bart., but I trust that no one will be allowed to meddle with these burial-places, unless he has first proved himself to be a sufficiently-informed archæologist; and secondly, a careful excavator.

52. Towards the northern verge of the field. This is larger than the preceding four, and of good elevation. At the time of the meeting of the Devonshire Association, at Honiton, in 1868, this and the two following were trenched. The trench through this one was carried in a direction nearly parallel with the neighbouring hedge. It was not above two or three feet wide, and nothing was found.

53. This is one of the large ones. It was examined by the Rev. R. Kirwan in July, 1868. It was 95 feet in diameter and about eight high. Possibly there had been a foss round it, but few traces remained. The trench was begun from the south-east, at a width of about four feet, and carried through; but for the purpose of further examination it was considerably widened out, and a large portion of the centre entirely put aside, by which a sort of pavement of rough flint stones, nearly three yards wide and about four long, was revealed to view. The present Lord Coleridge came up on the hill, and, lending a willing hand, he worked like a navvy. Upon the flint stones rested a layer of charcoal, and on the charcoal a flattened mass of disintegrated calcined bones. Lumps of red war paint, or ruddle, were occasionally met with, and this is not unusual in other barrows. We are induced to infer from this that the ancient Britons followed the barbaric practice of decorating their faces or bodies with stripes and blotches of red paint, either to look terrible in war, or else to look exceedingly becoming on great festive occasions, as I have seen some tribes of the North-American Indians do at the present day. The Kimmeridge coal drinking cup was found close to this central deposit. A small piece of the edge or rim was accidentally knocked out with the pickaxe. Mr. Heineken afterwards calcined this to charcoal, when the

woody fibre was clearly perceptible under the magnifier. Mr. Kirwan's account of his labours on this barrow is printed in the *Transactions*, v. ii. p. 624, where it is called Barrow A. The woodcut representation of the cup is half-an-inch too wide, which gives it rather a clumsy appearance; but this is explained by the fact that the cup became oval in drying, and the long diameter now measures three inches and five-eighths, and the short diameter is two inches and nearly seven-eighths. The true or original diameter would be a medium between these two, and that I have tried to give to my sketch under No. 54. The section of the mound exhibited traces of stratification, as if black earth, and peat, and clay had been used. Some thought part of this was foreign to the neighbourhood, but I think not, as there are clays of different colours under the turf by the gutters on the eastern and some other parts of Broad Down. The cup had not long been taken from its cold and damp bed of clay, and exposed to the dry warm atmosphere of July, when it began to shrink and crack, so it was put into a basin of water at the turn-pike. Mr. Heineken and myself took it out of the water, and there I made my first sketch of it. It has been turned in the lathe, as the encircling striæ of the tool sufficiently indicate, and the handle is worked out of the solid. Inside the rim, about half-an-inch broad, a fine bead is carried all round in a zig-zag pattern. Three small beads or half-rounds encompass the outside of the rim at the top of the handle; and at the bottom of the handle, an inch and five-eighths down, four rings have been turned; still lower, half-way to the conical bottom, three beads have been carried round; and lastly, three more rings, having a diameter about that of a shilling, surround the point at the lower end. For the purposes of this report I have recently repaired again to the Museum, where Mr. D'Urban, the curator, opened the cases and re-took all the measurements, as well of the cup as of the incense vase, and another cup presently to be mentioned. The cup is now of a fine, deep, rich brown, with a slight polish. The barrow has all been filled in again.

54. This is the large barrow in the south corner of the field. There is no perceptible foss round it. A trench from six to seven feet wide was begun on the south-east side, and carried quite through to the north-west. No interment was met with. The section or sides of the trench, exhibiting the composition of the mound, and of which I made a sketch on the spot, presented the appearance of irregular blotches of charcoal not in strata, in some parts very black; whilst



UNDER SIDE OF PRECEDING CLAY VESSEL, FROM 54.



SECTION OF 57.

FRAGMENT A. FROM 57.



FRAGMENT B. FROM 57.



SECTION.







SECTION OF No 60.



SECTION OF 61.



BRONZE FROM 61.

RIVET.



KIMMERIDGE COAL CUP.

FROM No 61.

FULL SIZE.



in others the shade was lighter, owing to a larger admixture of sandy earth, and these were more or less intimately distributed among patches of sandy earth of different shades of red, graduating upwards into the common brown top soil. This red appearance some ascribe to the action of fire, inasmuch as fire is red; but I look at this ascription with reserve, because the products of combustion more generally result in ash-grey. There is a great deal of oxide of iron in the soil about here, and the red colour may have been produced as much by this as by the agency of fire. In Mr. Kirwan's description this tumulus is spoken of as Barrow B in the *Transactions*, vol. ii. page 634. Unfortunately that gentleman was so very much occupied in Honiton, at the time of the meeting there in 1868, that he was unable to be with the labourers whom he had set to work to make the excavations. When the meeting was over the members, with their friends and neighbours, proceeded from all quarters to the hill for the purpose of inspecting the barrows; and no one who was there will easily forget the beauty of the scene, the multitude of the company, the brilliant weather, the variety of the costumes of the picturesque groups that strolled about the wild heath, or sat on the summits of the silent grave-mounds, or the sumptuousness of the entertainment provided under the tents that had been pitched in the enclosure across the road to the west of Seven-barrow Field. Mr. Blackmore, a gentleman from Torquay, was walking over the newly-turned out earth on the eastern flank of the barrow (somewhere about A in the section of 54 given in the illustration), when he espied and picked up the cylindrical clay vessel full of calcined bones, also in the illustration. I made a sketch of it on the hill; but have twice revised and corrected it in the Museum. It is of light brown clay, three inches in diameter, and one and a half high. The pattern or ornament is produced by cuts or slashes. Thus two lines are carried all round—one below the rim outside, and the other above the bottom edge. These are united by groups of a few perpendicular lines a quarter of an inch apart, and these again are tied by open horizontal lines, the intervals between them being filled up with sloping cuts, producing a herring-bone pattern. The bottom has a circular cut all round near the edge; then two diameters drawn from one side to the other, and crossing each other at right angles in the middle; and these are flanked by shorter parallel lines, until the whole surface of the bottom is covered, as shown in the next plate. The top rim slopes inwards, and as the sides of the

vessel are nearly half-an-inch thick, there is room enough to ornament this sloping rim with a series of indented chevrons. The little vase is packed full of fragments of white and clean burnt bones, intermixed with dead grass apparently, the threads and filaments of which are visible. Now it may be assumed as a certainty, that as this vessel was picked up unsullied by any clay, dirt, or earth, but fresh and clean, it must have been enclosed and protected within some other and larger urn, which the ignorant workmen must have broken to pieces with their tools, and never saw. Such fragments of a larger urn have never been found; but they must be there somewhere. This shows the necessity of never leaving workmen for a moment when they are engaged in such researches; for no one knows what the next spade full of earth may reveal. A few days afterwards the labourers were put on the work again. They widened out the trench towards the east and north, and at last came upon a bed of oak charcoal on the natural surface of the ground, a few pieces of ruddle, and a flattened mass of calcined bones. Mr. Kirwan, who was then present, considered this as the original interment. The earth was also cleared out for some feet on the south-west side of the trench; but in these works there were only found some small pieces of pottery without pattern, the fractured edges of which were not fresh, but rather time-worn, and near the surface two larger pieces; but there was nothing to prove that they were parts of the urn that had been overlooked. I do not know whether these fragments were saved. Mr. Heineken made a photograph of the barrow, taking his stand to the north-west, and looking through the trench. And we measured its diameter by taking the tape through the trench, making it 99 feet broad, and 8 feet high; but as the edges fine off to nothing, different measurers might arrive at somewhat different results. The whole was afterwards filled in.

55. A small mound of earth and stones, north of Sevenbarrow Field.

56. A small mound of earth and stones, the southern half of which was dug down in 1870 by the Rev. R. Kirwan, and, after finding burnt bones and ashes, abandoned. It is of peat and clay, 36 feet across and 3 high. (*Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, vol. iv. pp. 301, 302.)

57. A barrow of earth and stones on the open moor. The examination of it was undertaken by Mr. Kirwan, in July, 1868; and I was with him assisting in the work on two different days, one of them being dry, but the other being

extremely wet, when we were driven into a tent pitched on the heath, together with Mr. Heineken and Mr. and Mrs. Hine-Haycock, of Belmont, Sidmouth, with some friends, who had come out that morning. It was said to be 70 feet in diameter and 6 high, but I did not measure it. Some very large and old furze bushes had long held possession of the summit, but these were cut away. Under a foot or so of top soil there was a considerable thickness of reddish-sandy earth blotched with yellow, and a farmer on horseback, who was passing eastward along the northern road, turned to look, and gave it as his opinion that that reddish earth did not belong to the neighbourhood. I do not always accept these haphazard assertions very confidently. Not very far under the surface, as may be seen in the chasms, lies the fox-mould of the greensand formation, of a yellow colour; and although the common products of fire are mostly grey, it is possible that where oxide of iron exists in this fox-mould, a red colour may be elicited by heat. This "burnt earth," as some called it, I suspect was fox-mould. The centre of the barrow was a cairn of dry, white, angular flints, encompassed with blocks of breccia, weighing on an average about half a ton by estimation, and set at intervals of two to three feet all round. I assisted in turning over several of them, and they were rough masses nearly three feet high. I believe they were the common silicified clay and flint blocks that lie scattered over the surface of the hills here about, but which occur most abundantly nearer to Sidmouth, and not taken from the Farway Brook, as Mr. Kirwan suggested. Near the centre of the cairn some charcoal was met with, and then the fragments of an urn, not in a cist, but crushed by the flints. I sketched the best piece in the tent, and give it in the plate as fragment B, from No. 57. This barrow is marked C in Mr. Kirwan's account in the *Transactions* (vol. ii. p. 641), and an excellent woodcut of the same fragment accompanies it. This urn, as restored by him, was 7 inches high, 3 in diameter at the base, 8 at the swell of the body, round which part a twisted thong had been drawn, 7 the diameter of the rim, and 6 the open mouth. The broken pieces lay among charcoal and black earth, and upon considerable traces of burnt bones gone to powder. The inside slope of the rim was set off with a few parallel lines, imperfectly indicating a zigzag, and the edge was jagged with a stick. The colour was reddish-brown without and dark within. After this the barrow was nearly all turned over, at all events within the great stones, when various pieces of pottery of different make and quality

were met with. I am not aware whether they were saved, but I believe the best of the finds are in the Museum. Towards the eastern verge of the cairn, or stony portion, in a cist made by piling up the flints like a dome (is not this an early instance of the arch?), more than half a yard above the ground, a clay vessel,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, was met with, and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter. A little way to the west of it lay traces of burnt bones, but no ashes. On exposure to the air it soon fell to pieces. The outside was ornamented with a series of incised horizontal lines encircling the body from top to bottom, at intervals of about three-eighths of an inch; and between two of the upper ones, near the rim, a number of perpendicular cuts at open distances had been made all round. I took a sketch of one of the best pieces after we had been driven into the tent, and give it in the plate as fragment A, from 57.

58. The most southerly barrow of an irregular line of seven, running away towards the north.

59. Across the road over the open moor, and the second of the seven, from the south. Not been opened.

60. A mound of flints covered with peat and clay. Opened in 1870 by a trench, four or five feet wide from the south to the centre. Diameter nearly 90 feet, and elevation about six. Burnt bones in the centre, and near them traces of a bronze quite gone to decay. (*Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, iv. 303.)

61. Seven feet high and 120 in diameter. Opened in 1870 by a trench from the south to the centre. Surrounded by a shallow foss, and a ring of large detached stones, like No. 63. There was a cairn of flints, covered with three or more feet of earth. The kist-vaen had fallen in. Within it were found burnt bones on the bark of a tree, and the remains of a bronze spear-head, or perhaps a dagger, quite fragmentary, and also a rivet. Three feet from these a Kimmeridge coal cup was found, somewhat resembling that in No. 53. This tumulus was opened by Mr. Kirwan. I was unable to be present. He has given an engraving of the cup in its perfect state. I give one as I saw it in the Museum. Unlike the other, which resembles dark brown wood, this one looks cracked and fragile, and very like charcoal. This barrow is letter E of his description, at p. 302. He writes: "Upon a subsequent occasion I was enabled to proceed with the investigation of the group of seven barrows, which occupy the eastern escarpment of Broad Down. The tumulus (E) which now came under our notice occupied the centre of the group." The group of seven barrows here

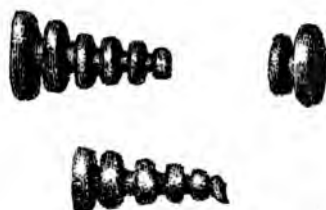




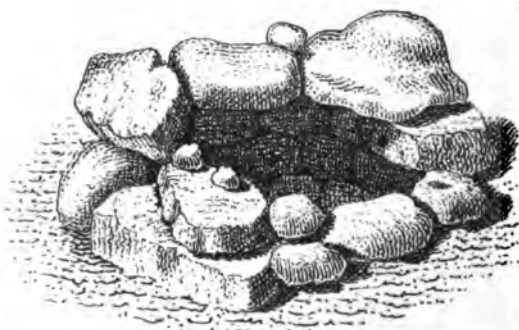
SECTION OF Nº 62.



BRONZE SOCKETED CELT IN 62.  
FULL SIZE.



BONE OBJECTS IN Nº 62.



KIST-VAEN IN Nº 62.



VIEW OF Nº 63, SURROUNDED BY A CIRCLE OF STONES.



indicated are those numbered 58 to 64 inclusive in the annexed map, or what is better, in the enlarged plan of part of Broad Down in the plate; and "the centre of the group" must necessarily be the fourth, counted from either end. In this case it is No. 61. Remember where 61 is, and that the black cup was found in it.

62. I must quote a few words more from Mr. Kirwan's narrative of his examination of these barrows, because there is an error in the number. At page 300 he says: "We then inspected a series of seven barrows, arranged in a line running north and south, and separated one from the other by an interval of about twenty yards. Our excavations were commenced on the eastern side of the fourth member (D) of the group (reckoning from the south)," &c. The fourth member of the group, reckoning from the south, is 61, as before; whereas he means No. 62, which is out over on the north side of the hedge. It is plain he does not mean the same barrow in both cases, because he designates one of them D, and the other E. Anyhow, we have come to No. 62, for I know them all. He asked me to come up when it was opened, and meet the Field Naturalists, who were to be there, but I was prevented on that day. Mr. Heineken and myself were there immediately after, whilst the trench and the kist-vaen were still open. It was a large mound of earth, with a kist-vaen built up of rough stones in the centre. Many traces of charcoal were mixed with the earth. I sketched the open kist-vaen stone for stone, standing on the north side, and at the north end of the trench, looking towards the south, and give it in the plate as the kist-vaen of No. 62. I then went down on my knees, and thrusting my arm and hand in as far as I could reach, felt about the dark corners for another cup. "Perhaps there's a snake in there," said Mr. Heineken. Didn't I pull my hand back! I felt nothing but fine soft black mould; and I regretted I had not got a trowel or a hand-digger to search more thoroughly. Something has always been forgotten. The calcined bones of an adult and those of an infant had already been removed; and Mr. Kirwan gives an engraving of what he terms a "bone bead" from the same place (*Op. cit.* iv. 301, and plate ii. fig. 2); but this does not resemble the objects now in the Museum, and which I give in the plate. The fine socketed celt was met with in the earth.

63. This tumulus, of which I give a view, was surrounded with a peristalith, or series of blocks of rough stones, at my first acquaintance with it. They were the common bleached

flints of the hill, about the size of a man's head or larger, and placed all round singly at intervals of four or five feet; not sunk in the ground, but laid on the surface, and clearly visible, as the herbage just at this place is mostly fine grass, devoid of fern and high furze. Geologically speaking, all this part of the county is composed of the New Red Sandstone, the upper member of these hills being red marl. Upon the red marl there rests nearly 200 feet of the greensand formation, consisting of beds of green and yellow sands and clays, alternating with numerous seams of chert. This is capped by a varying stratum of tough yellow clay containing quantities of white angular flints and chert. Much speculation has been advanced in order to account for the occurrence of this clay and flints. The large white stones of the peristalth came from that source; and so did the great stones, as well as the smaller, of No. 57; and so did the immense blocks, weighing several tons in weight, that lie scattered over the hills immediately overlooking Sidmouth, many of which have been removed to the river Sid, where they serve to fortify the banks, and where they can be easily examined. They are breccias composed of bleached pieces of chert and flint, mostly angular, embedded in a paste of grey or yellow clay, which clay has become silicified, and now is as hard, and takes as fine a polish, as the flints themselves. In accounting for the presence of this covering to the hills, some geologists have conjectured that the flints may be the sediment or remains of chalk outliers, as the pure chalk still exists a few miles south-east, at Beer; and that the tough paste may have been derived from the Plastic Clay beds above. Perhaps, however, I may suggest that the materials for this bed are to be found in the greensand below; and that if those materials were stirred up and washed about in a large body of water when the land was submerged, whether the clay and fragments of chert, so stirred up and the sand washed out, might not have settled again and formed this stratum which we now see resting upon the greensand in this neighbourhood. In some places, and in hollows, it is 50 feet thick. It not only caps the elevations, but there are indications of its lapping down over the slopes like a sheet; and there are two spots in the "Five Fields" leading to Bickwell, in the parish of Sidmouth, where it is met with in comparatively low ground. This looks as if it had once been continuous. Some have referred its origin to glacial action, like the boulder clay of other parts of England; first, because the long axes of the stones found in it are not coincident with the horizontal line,

as they would be if the settlement had been in quiet water; second, because no horizontal lines of stratification have anywhere been detected, either in the exposed sections of the cliffs, or in the gravel pits on Peak Hill, or elsewhere; and third, because where any markings or lines of discoloration have appeared in the cuttings, instead of being straight and horizontal, they are waving and crooked and contorted, as if the soft mass had been mashed up and squeezed together by snow or icebergs. These, however, are but negative reasons, and such theories require further confirmation.

The barrow No. 63 does not appear to have been disturbed. On paying it a subsequent visit, I am sorry to say that, some time during the winter of 1871-2, the whole of the stones of the peristalith had been removed.

64. A mound of moderate size still looking untouched.

65. A long heap of flints, lower in the middle. It is either a burial heap that has been disturbed, or perhaps not a barrow.

66. A small barrow of flints, the south half of which has been knocked about. I suspect it is one of the many that were hastily dug into in 1870 by Mr. Kirwan when the Field Naturalists were on the hill.

67. Of small dimensions like the former.

68. One more of the too many hurriedly attacked in 1870. It is of flints; the south side has been dug down and left as it was.

69. This was a cairn or heap of bleached angular flints, or more strictly perhaps of chert from the clay bed below. The stone implements that are to be picked up on these hills are rarely made of this material, because it does not split well; they are generally of the black flint from the chalk at Beer. This heap was entirely removed at some former period unknown to me, and nothing remains but a mere ring to mark its place.

70. This is a mound among the furze on the south side of the hedge, and the last of this extraordinary group.

71. A large and conspicuous mound nearly in the middle of the down, and marked on the Ordnance Map. It is 140 feet in diameter—the largest in this neighbourhood, and yet they all look so small out on the wild heath. No one would imagine their real size until they measure them, and until they calculate how much of their own lawn, or of their own garden, such a heap would cover. Just try, and you will be astonished. It has been disturbed on the top, but apparently no real examination has been made. One day Mr. Heineken

turned up an egg-shaped beach pebble on the crown of this tumulus with the point of his walking-stick. It precisely resembled the hoard of sling-stones packed away in a cave against the south agger of Sidbury Castle (which I was the first to examine on the spot, on Monday, March 28th, 1864, after some labourers had broken into the cavern, arched over with rough flints, and scattered them), and of which I brought away and still retain six—the most undoubted ancient sling-stones discovered in this neighbourhood. In the same simple way, on another occasion, he turned up a thumb-flint or circular scraper, or strike-a-light, of black flint, which is now, with others, in the Exeter Museum. A quantity of old dull green cathedral glass (so called), looking as if it had been the refuse from some dilapidated cottage window, supposed to have been thrown there by some village glazier after he had stripped away the lead, was also discovered here.

72. This is on the east of the road, and nearly opposite the last. It is 130 feet in diameter; the flat top, 70, and the slopes 30 each. Thus,  $30 + 70 + 30 = 130$ . It is slightly dished on the crown, as the section in the plate shows; or it may have been encompassed by a breastwork at the top of the slope, and, as suggested by Mr. Heineken, may have been a speculum or advanced post in connection with Farway Castle, and not a burial mound. He suggests, also that Nos. 24, 32, and 34, all large and high, and placed at commanding situations, may have been teut-hills or look-out stations. No. 72 is an interesting work, and does not appear to have been injured by any attempts at examination.

73. One of a group of three on the eastern side of the down.

74. Another, a few yards from the preceding.

75. The third of the group. They are small, and encumbered with a growth of heath and furze.

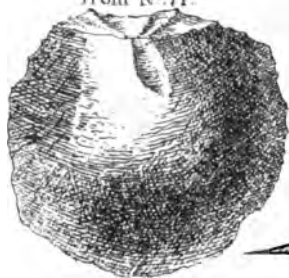
76. A small mound in the plantation.

77. This is also small, and it is somewhat doubtful in appearance.

78. This tumulus, or what remains of it, is in a field called "Stone Burrow Plot." The land is a portion of Lovehayne Farm, and belongs to the feoffees of the Poor Lands of Colyton. The earliest mention of this burial mound that has come under my notice is an entry in the diary or almanac of the late Mr. Matthew Lee, of Ebford, near Topsham, bearing date July, 1763. Mr. Lee was returning home on horseback, and he found men taking stones from this heap to construct the "new turnpike." This must be the present road running north and south over Broad Down, in the forming of which



Mint Scraper,  
from N<sup>o</sup> 71.



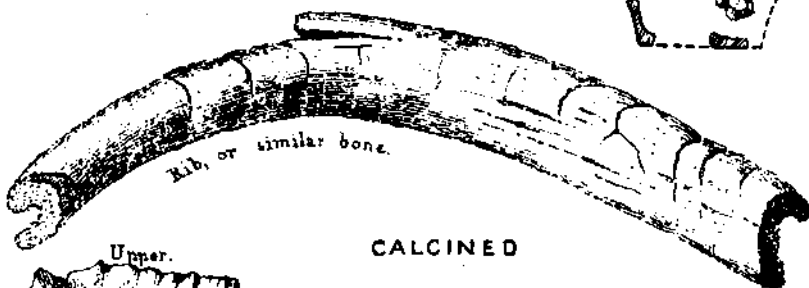
Section of  
Flat Barrow  
or  
Speculum,  
N<sup>o</sup> 72.



Section of N<sup>o</sup> 78.



Fragments from 78,  
suggesting  
this form.



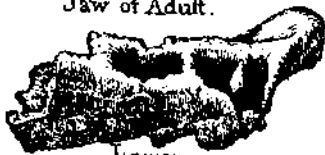
Rib, or similar bone.

CALCINED  
HUMAN BONES  
FROM N<sup>o</sup> 78.



Upper.

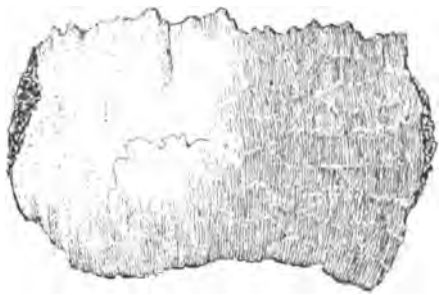
Jaw of Adult.



Lower.



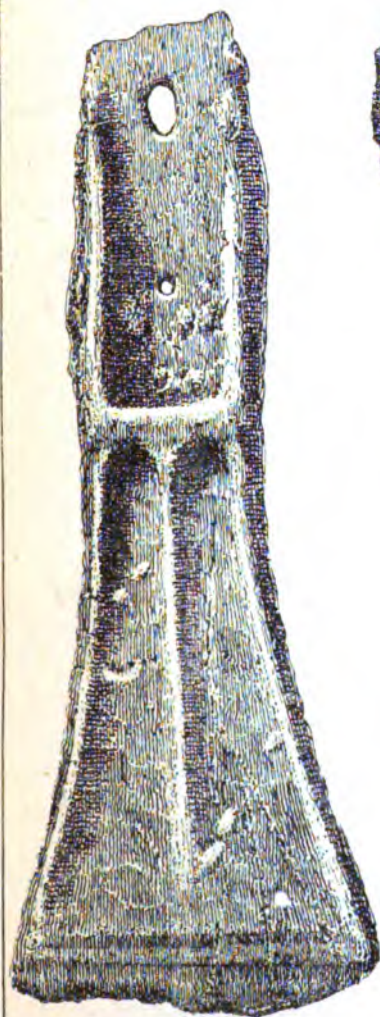
Left side lower jaw of a child,  
full size.



Portion of Skull.

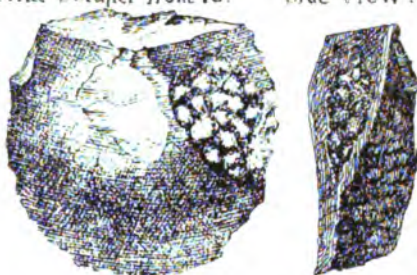
ALL THE BONES FULL SIZE.

Bronze Palstave.  
full size.  
from 78.

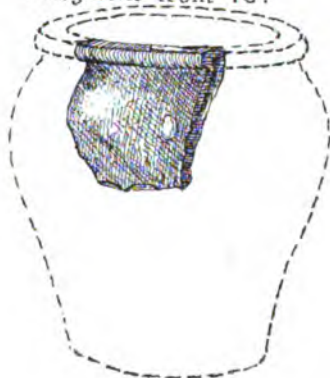


Flint Scraper from 78.

Side view.

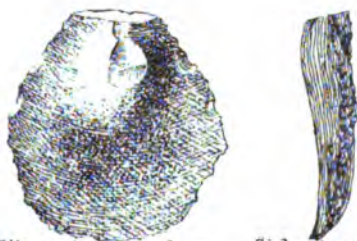


Fragment from 78.



Flint Scraper from  
field near 78.

Side view.







the barrow No. 42 was cut through, as already mentioned. Mr. Heineken has furnished me with the following extract from his own memorandum-book:—"When at Ebford, May, 1862, Miss Lee found the following entry in her grandfather's (Matthew Lee's) almanac: 'July, 1763. The labourers on the new turnpike, to procure stone on Loven [Lovehayne] Farm, Culleton parish, near Southley, belonging to Culleton poor, found about 100 Roman chisels for cutting stone, of a metal between a copper and brass colour, rough as they came from the mould and unhardened. . . . I procured four of them.' . . . In May, 1861," continues Mr. Heineken, "Miss Lee showed me one of the celts, which was kept at the Hermitage at Ebford."

"On looking for it again, May, 1862, at the Hermitage, we could not find it."\* Of the four palstaves taken by Mr. Lee to Ebford there remained only one and the fragment of another in 1861, and soon after which they were missing. Somewhere about 1870 I was enquiring of some labouring men near Otterton whether they ever dug up any antiquities in their work, or ever heard of any. One of the men replied that some brass tools had been found near Woodbury Castle, he believed. "Woodbury Castle," thought I, "is not very far from Ebford. This news is worth looking into." Further enquiry traced them to a Mr. Toby, a baker, who had removed to London. I got his address from his sister, Mrs. Drake, at Lower Pin Farm, near Otterton, wrote to him, found out that they were in his possession; but though he would not give them up, he said he would show them to me if I should come to London. An interval elapsed, when there came to Sidmouth Mr. Spencer George Perceval, of Severn House, Henbury, near Bristol.† He took the matter up where I had left it, and after a long correspondence, and much delay, he got Mr. Toby to send the objects down to Mrs. Drake. Mr. Perceval and myself walked over from Sidmouth, July 21st, 1877, and she finally gave them up to him. On showing them to Mr. Heineken he recognized them as undoubtedly to all appearance the same he had seen at Ebford. Mr. Perceval has since given them to the Exeter Museum, and much credit is due to him for his untiring perseverance in recovering them.

\* This extract compared with my own memorandum, and found to be correct.—N. J. HEINEKEN.

† He is a grandson of Spencer Perceval, Chancellor of the Exchequer and Prime Minister, who was shot in the lobby of the House of Commons in 1812.

But besides those four taken from the barrow by Mr. Lee in 1763, a Mr. Snook, of Colyton (still pronounced Culliton by the country people), then bailiff to the Feoffees, who overlooked the labourers, took a few back with him to Colyton; and some of them, if not all of them, were said to have been put into the parish chest; but I understand that they have been lost sight of. One of them, however, Mr. Snook retained in his house, and by the year 1861 it had descended to his son and grandson, who were then living. Through the agency of a friend Mr. Heineken borrowed it, and on the 22nd of November that year I made a mould of it, and then several casts in lead, which I coloured green to look like bronze. Mr. Kirwan put one of these in the Museum, pending the real one, which the owner would not give up. Mr. Perceval again came to the rescue, and by once more exercising the same perseverance as before, he has ended by getting this one into the Museum at Exeter also.

I have dwelt rather long upon these palstaves; but as their descent can be so clearly traced, and their authenticity to my mind is so well established, the space taken up in the recital is not badly occupied. In 1861 it came to the knowledge of Mr. Heineken and myself that some building was about to be erected on Lovehayne Farm, and that they were going to attack this barrow for the sake of the stone. We thought it better to be present, and in October that year we went over twice. The section of the barrow (see plate No. 78) showed that it had consisted originally of a large heap of the usual white angular flints, covered over with about four or more feet of earth, apparently from the greensand. The trench which had been run into it in 1763 was clearly visible in the middle. The flints below had been disturbed, and when the materials had been put back, earth and stones had been thrown in promiscuously together, as shown in the middle of the section. These bronze implements formed no part of the original interment, nor indeed of any interment at all. They constituted the hoard or stock-in-trade of some bronze-caster, as was indicated by their untrimmed condition, as well as from their great numbers, as if they had not yet been used or passed into circulation, but had been buried there temporarily for safety. Mr. J. Snook, son of the first possessor, writing to Mr. Heineken in reply to his enquiries, says there were "half a wheelbarrow full." In a second communication he uses the words, "About fourscore;" and he adds that "they were sold at Iloniton for old metal." Mr. Per-

ceval finally got the Snook palstave into the Museum from the widow of the grandson of the first owner, and it is this one that my sketch in the plate represents. In vol. ii. page 647 of the *Transactions* Mr. Kirwan speaks of this find; and referring to Davidson's *Notes on the Antiquities of Devon*, page 73, quotes these words within inverted commas, "Bronze spear-heads, amounting to half a wheelbarrow full." On turning to Mr. Davidson's book, page 73, I see his words are very different. They are, "A large number of spear-heads of mixed metal." Lower down he gives the statement from Mr. Lee's Almanac, which he obtained from Mr. Heineken, and it is placed within inverted commas; but the words do not tally with the version I have given above. At page 300, vol. iv., he describes the finding of the socketed celt in barrow No. 62, which showed signs of wear; and comparing it with another socketed celt which he procured in Honiton, he says, "The same is also the case with the other celt of similar type obtained in Honiton, and supposed to have been originally brought from Lovehayne, near Broad Down." We have no right to hint that this celt, accidentally procured in Honiton, ever had any connection with the hoard at Lovehayne, for we know nothing of its history; and if we do not guard ourselves against suppositions and assumptions of this kind, there is no end to the errors we may run into. We have traced the pedigrees of the Lee palstave with the fragment, and of the Snook palstave, "from the earliest times down to the present day," as the historians say, and I have every confidence in their authenticity; but good-bye to all confidence if we write history upon supposition.

Well, so much for bronze implements. From first to last Mr. Heineken and myself have visited this barrow more times than I can now enumerate, never missing an opportunity of turning aside to have another look at it whenever we have been in the neighbourhood of Broad Down. By my *Diary*, however, I see that it was on September 19th, 1859, and in October, 1861, that the chief diggings took place. From 1763 down to that date occasional spoliations had taken place, but at this time the destruction was well-nigh completed. How many loads of flints, or scores of loads, had been removed I know not; but in the five days from the 24th to the 29th of October, 1861, the labourers took away thirty-two. In constructing the barrow, which was 70 feet in diameter, a depression had been made in the centre, where a rude pavement had been laid down, and the primary interment of a rude vase, containing the calcined bones of an

adult and a child, had been deposited. Over this was a cairn of about 4 feet high, and this latter was buried under 4 or 5 feet of earth. We directed the men in their approach to the centre. The vase had been broken, either by the weight of the stones or by depredators, and we only found a few pieces. Some traces of charcoal presented themselves, but not many. A great many pieces of burnt bone were collected, the best of which are given in the plate. We met with one piece of pottery, of better quality than the former, in which we believed the bones had been, and which had a spot of green glaze on the side and another on the top. It was about half-an-inch thick, and forms part of the second vase from 78. A portion of a third vase, of coarse pottery, nearly two inches square, and only three-sixteenths of an inch thick, was also met with and saved. These things have been sent to the Exeter Museum. Great part of the earth of this barrow was strewn over the field, but a large heap still remains. At a subsequent visit I picked up a sling-stone on this heap, but it was a stone from the distant Budleigh pebble-bed; and Mr. Heineken, with the point of his stick, turned up a thumb-flint scraper, or strike-a-light. It is a thick specimen, and in splitting the flint the maker broke into a cavity full of the mammillations of chalcedony. I found another soon after in the field between the barrow and the road.

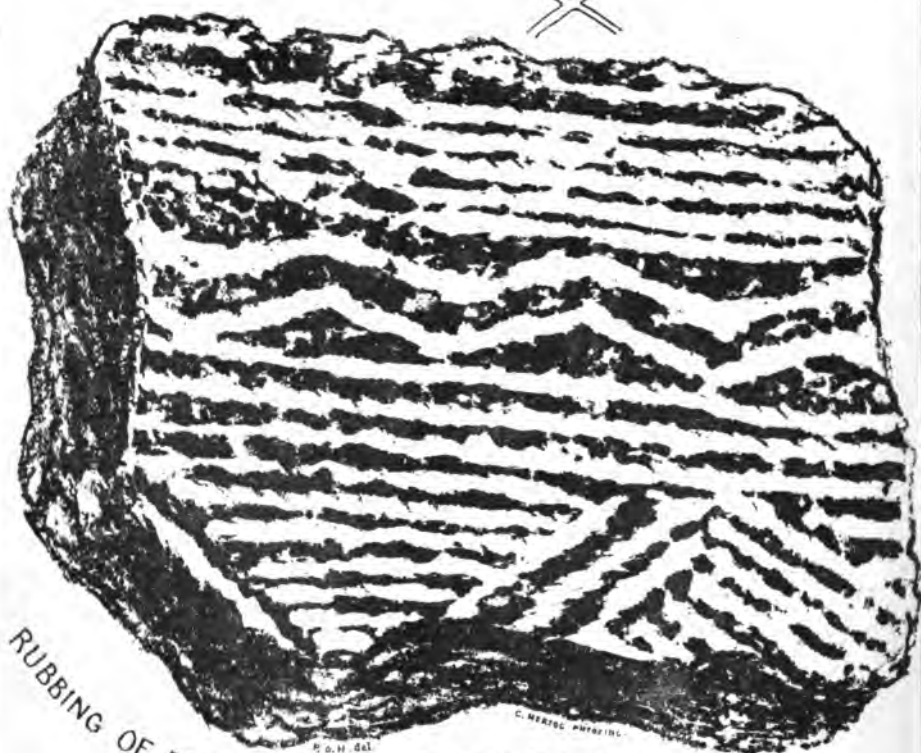
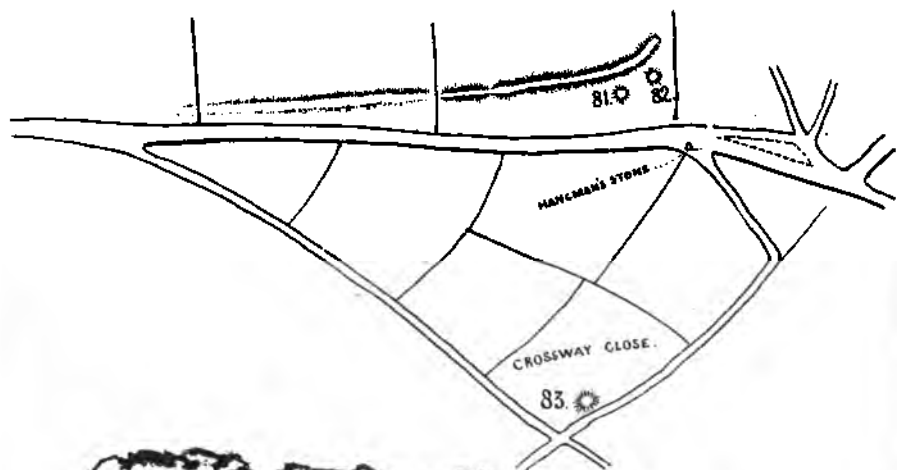
79. A mound in the interior area of Blackbury Castle, towards the south-east side.

80. A similar mound close to the former. Without examination it would be impossible to say exactly what they really are; but it is well to put them on record.

81. In a field now called "Twelve-Acre Field," which has only been brought into cultivation within recent times, there are traces of a long earthwork and two barrows. No. 81 is twelve paces in diameter, of no great elevation, and mostly made up apparently of stones.

82. This lies a few yards eastward of the former. They are immediately opposite Hangman's Stone. Driving by that way one day with Mr. Heineken to explore the country further eastward, and seeing some men ploughing, his attention was called to a long ridge of the yellow clay of the subsoil running across the field nearly parallel with the road, and which was afterwards found to extend itself westwards into the adjoining fields. It was very apparent across the black mould. Subsequent examinations showed it to be a very interesting work, never noticed before; for it was evidently some bold line of defence in connection with Black-





RUBBING OF FRAGMENT OF CROSSWAY CLOSE URN. N° 83.



bury Castle and the Cross Dyke at the Three Horse-shoes wayside inn; or, considering that all the roads from the coast on the east and south converge upon this point, it is a work that some invader who had attained so far in his approaches to that camp had thrown up, for the purpose of protecting himself from an assault in that direction. The ditch was on the east side of the Cross Dyke, and on the north side of this earthwork, whatever that may mean. The plough passes over these two barrows nearly every year, but I believe that no attempt at excavation has been made. A plan on a larger scale is given in the plate, easily found by their numbers.

83. About 1850 some men were ploughing in a field called "Crossway Close," when the plough caught some stones, probably of some kist-vaen, and broke a large sepulchral urn, containing calcined bones. Mr. Stoodleigh, of Higher Watercombe, close by, told Mr. Heineken and myself, and showed us the spot. The labourers carried away the pieces, and they were all lost, except one, which Mr. Power, of Elverway, secured. He would not give it, but he lent it to Mr. Heineken. From this I made a mould and several casts, and returned the original. Some ten years after this, being near Elverway, I called and asked him for the fragment; but though he searched about, he could not find it. He was an old man, and is since dead. He had better have given it at first. It measured three inches by four, and was nearly an inch thick. In colour it was reddish-brown, and it was thickly ornamented with a pattern produced by a twisted cord. The inside slope of the top edge was set off with four parallel lines of the twisted cord. Judging by this segment of the curve, it must have been near half a yard in diameter. It would have been a splendid urn had it been recovered whole. A rubbing of my cast is given in the plate.

84. Between three and four miles east of Sidmouth, on a farm called Bury, there is a quadrangular camp, whose south side abuts upon the edge of the cliff. It is nearly 1000 feet long and 350 wide. On the plain, covered with fine grass, that stretches away westward of it, there lie, scattered about within fifty yards of the cliff, twelve or fourteen heaps of stone. In our visits to the camp, Mr. Heineken and myself had often contemplated these mounds, but considered them only as "clearance heaps," commonly so called. Where the farmers are much encumbered with loose stones, they frequently collect them, and throw them in a corner of the field, or anywhere else out of their way; and as the land is all under cultivation

a few score yards from the cliff, it seemed reasonable to suppose that these were merely heaps of the flints that they had thrown there to get rid of. A short distance to the west of the camp lie three great blocks of stone, under which treasure is concealed, according to the belief of the country people. In advance of these is a circular mound 62 feet in diameter; then a mound slipping over the cliff; further in there is a long narrow heap, 50 feet in length; then four small round ones; then a larger conical one, 40 feet in diameter, and seven high. This is No. 84, which we attacked September 8th, 1858. Further west are two circular heaps; then a long heap, having its greatest axis parallel with the edge of the cliff; then another long one, with its greater diameter at right angles to the line of cliff; and then two round heaps. All of these are within a quarter of a mile of the camp. Mr. Heineken remarked, however, that some of these were covered with a foot thick of good mould; and as it seems unlikely that any farmer would cover a mere refuse heap with earth, it might be inferred that possibly these may be designedly made burial mounds after all. Their proximity to the camp, moreover, may suggest that some deadly struggles may have taken place here. The opening of 84 (which is the only one I think it necessary to number), did not produce any results. The fine turf and the earth were removed from the top, and the labourers descended down to the ground line. The work was most difficult. All the interior was composed of loose dry flints, and as fast as any were removed the sides slipped down, and threatened to bury the men. Only standing room for one man was laid bare at the floor, although the top was completely open. Nothing but the removal of the whole heap would have proved whether it was a sepulchral mound or not.

85. About the commencement of the present century a stone coffin was discovered in a field called Littlecombe Three Acres, near Bury Farm. There may originally have been a mound over it, but as the land has been from time immemorial under cultivation, nothing on that point can be ascertained now. A loaded cart was passing through the field, when one of the wheels broke the cover of the coffin, which was only a few inches beneath the surface of the ground. This led to an examination, when the skull and some of the larger bones were taken out, and, as it was said, carried to the vicarage at Branscombe, and afterwards buried in the churchyard. Twenty or thirty years after this the tenant of Bury Farm, having a superstitious dread of the spot, wished that the coffin and its contents should be





STONE COFFIN.



RABBIT

METACARPAL—BACK OF THE HAND.



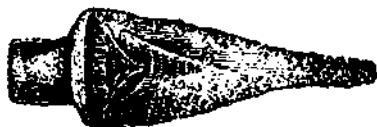
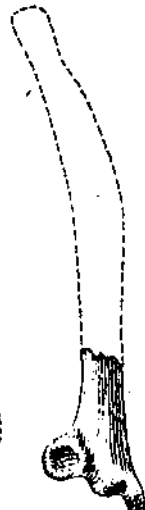
FINGER.



TOOTH.



BIRD'S BONES.



BRONZE FIBULA.



IRON NAIL.



entirely removed. Report declared that a ghost, under the form of a lady with an old-fashioned head-dress, and long pins stuck through her hair, used to sit upon the stile in the dusk of the evening, so that the good people of the neighbourhood were afraid to go by. Some more of the bones were carried away, and then for many years the subject dropped. Having heard of these things, Mr. Heineken and myself resolved to have an examination; but as the acts of spoliation had been rather numerous, we entertained small hope of finding anything. It was so long ago as July 27th, 1857, that we commenced operations. The top edge of the coffin was only six inches under the turf, there being no lid at all. It lay nearly north and south; or rather, what we took to be the head end, inclined about fourteen degrees to the west of north. The coffin had been made of one block of Beer stone from the subterranean quarries, or from the quarry, on the cliff at Branscombe, now worked out. These quarries furnish a hardish chalk rock that has been much used in house and church building from the earliest ages. The coffin was all in fragments, except a portion of the head end, two feet ten inches long, and this had the right side broken out. It had been about seven feet long originally, and was eleven and a half inches deep. The sides were from three to four inches thick. One large piece had a hole nearly an inch in diameter through it, such as stone coffins sometimes have in the middle of the bottom. The work was of a very rude nature, except a rabbet round the top edge, the point of the pick being visible everywhere, both inside and out. Of the cover we saw nothing that we could identify; but from the rudeness of the whole construction it is not likely that any inscription had been cut upon it. We took the contents out carefully. Nearly all the earth passed through our fingers, or was examined by a rake, which we had with us for the purpose. We collected about thirty pieces of unburnt bone, the best of which were one or two joints of the finger, a metacarpal of the back of the hand, a tooth, and some others. Besides the human bones, we collected from the interior of the coffin, and evidently buried with the others, several of the bones, or portions of the bones, of a bird about the size of a rook or pheasant. We also met with an iron nail, and a bronze fibula, minus the pin. These objects have since been sent to Exeter. We replaced all the fragments of stone, filled in the earth, and relaid the turf. This coffin lay in a field on the south side of the lane leading to Branscombe, out in the open country, and remote from

every habitation. It has been suggested that the fibula resembles Roman work, and the position of the coffin not Christian burial. The nearest habitation is Bury Farm, nearly half-a-mile east, and perhaps a Roman villa occupied the site of the old farm-house, though nothing but examination would prove it; and then there is a quadrangular camp on the edge of the cliff, at about three-quarters of a mile to the south-east, which some incline to think Roman from its shape. These, however, are mere speculations; and these we admit not in this matter-of-fact account. Somewhere about 1874 the place was rifled again, and all the stone we had left carried away to repair a wall.

86. Near the carfoix a little to the south of Higher Bulstone, on the Branscombe side of the lane, a labouring man is said to have broken into a sort of kist-vaen made of slabs of stone, and containing bones. No enquiry on the spot, however, has succeeded in obtaining any definite information on the subject.

87. Somewhere about the year 1850 two labourers, named Gosling and Bond, were employed to make a limekiln at a spot about 200 yards east of the ruins of old Dunscombe Manor House, two miles north-east by east from Sidmouth. The place was near the head of a romantic combe opening to the sea. In digging down the bank the men broke into a sort of cave, in which were the bones of a person lying in a contracted position, encumbered and covered with blocks and pieces of the yellow sandstone of the district, belonging to the greensand formation. The men were too indistinct in their description to convey any clear idea of the attitude of the skeleton. No vestige of clothing, ornament, or weapons came to light. Gosling told me some years afterwards that most of the bones were taken to Miss Leigh, at Hill's Cottage, near Sidmouth, who owned the Dunscombe property; that some of them fell to pieces; and that the skull was buried in her garden, and the remembrance of the locality lost. Mr. Heineken has three of the detached teeth, the crowns of which are much worn by mastication. I got portions of leg and other bones, with part of the left side lower jaw with four teeth in their places, which I sent to Exeter. This was an interment without cremation, but under what circumstances it is impossible to say. The bones adhered strongly to the tongue, and there was every appearance of great age about them.

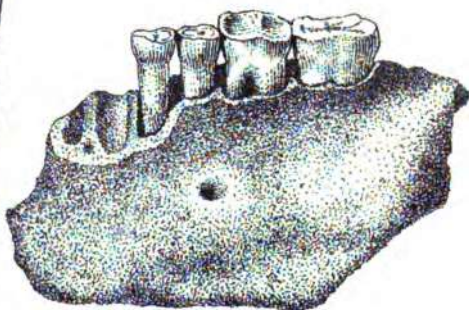
88. A circular patch on the open heath, from which the flints of a cairn have been entirely removed. A partial



LEG  
BONES  
FROM N<sup>o</sup> 87.

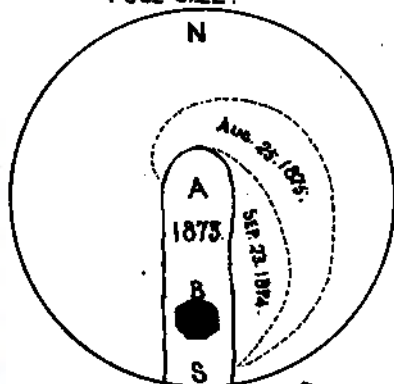


TEETH FROM N<sup>o</sup> 87.



LEFT SIDE OF LOWER JAW,  
TAKEN FROM N<sup>o</sup> 87.

FULL SIZE.



PLAN OF N<sup>o</sup> 89.



SECTION OF N<sup>o</sup> 89.



digging on the natural surface in the centre failed to discover any traces of an interment beneath the surface.

89. A cairn of dry white angular flints a few yards south of the preceding. It is on the brow of the hill overlooking the valley of Sidmouth. At some former period it had evidently been tampered with on the crown. June 6th, 1873, Mr. Heineken and myself made our first attack upon it. A trench was begun at the south margin, and carried beyond the centre. It was evident that the middle portion had been invaded from the top, and possibly the objects for which we were looking had been extracted; for nothing was met with in that quarter. There appeared to be a sort of floor made of larger flints than the rest of the heap; and one of our friends who had now joined us picked up an oviform beach pebble sling-stone in the trench at A. At first we thought this was an important find; but though it was found in the centre of the barrow at the bottom of the trench, it may not have been placed there at the time the barrow was made, but may have got in there from the top when the mound was tampered with; or indeed it may have rolled down from the upper surface whilst we were there ourselves; for it will be observed whilst making an excavation, that as fast as the materials are shovelled away from the bottom, the sides and upper portion are always sliding down. The finding of it in that place consequently proved nothing. Such beach pebble sling-stones are to be found scattered over the hills for many miles round this district, and very far inland, and must have been in very general use, not only for purposes of war, but also for purposes of the chase. Rabbits, and even birds, were probably aimed at on these hills. Another kind of sling-stone is not infrequently found here, though it is not so common. This is the worked sling-stone or hand missile manufactured out of flint stones. Such objects are discoidal or conical with a flat bottom, or irregularly jagged into sharp edges and points. One of these would not only give a very severe bruise, but would also inflict a very dangerous cut. I have laid some stress about the meeting with the sling-stone in the barrow, because a point in archæology is involved in it. Some of our best students are of opinion that the ancient Britons before Cæsar's time had no knowledge of the sling. We know that the Romans, Saxons, and the other nationalities that followed them, were familiar with its use. But whilst we have no proof that the Britons used the sling, we have, on the other hand, no proof that they did not. The question therefore is an open one, and it cannot be settled until we find a sling-stone

in a barrow of undoubted British construction, and it must be absolutely within the sepulchral urn, along with the remains of the deceased, or it cannot satisfy all the requirements. Well, to return. In and under the rough pavement of the floor, not at A, but some feet south of the centre at B, we met with a deposit of charcoal two or three inches thick; and as it only covered a space of about two feet in diameter, it looked as if the embers of the fire had been swept together in a heap. The charcoal was that of oak and fir—two species of tree scarcely known in this neighbourhood now. The elm is the common tree in the valley of Sidmouth, whilst the ash abounds at Salcombe and Honiton, and Harpford Wood is of beech. Considering how very generally we have detected oak charcoal in most of the ancient deposits that have come under our notice, it is hard to resist the conviction that at some remote period the oak must have abounded plentifully in this district. A large Budleigh pebble of the Devonian or Silurian age, and not a Sidmouth pebble, which would have been flint or chert, was met with near the charcoal, which had lost two pieces split out of the side as if by heat. Two small white quartz pebbles, also from the Budleigh bed, turned up, one being an inch across and a quarter inch thick, and the other spherical, about half-an-inch in diameter, blackened on one side as if by the fire, and with a small splinter detached. The occurrence of such pebbles in burial-places and kitchen-middens in widely separated localities has given rise to some speculation, certain persons imagining that they may have been used by children or others in some game, but the question is still undecided. Mr. Kirwan and myself in 1871 met with two or three in the refuse heap buried in the agger of the camp on High Peak Hill, a mile and a half west of Sidmouth, which were sent to Exeter along with the bones. No osseous remains could be detected with the charcoal. At a subsequent examination there in 1874 we met with a pebble-stone hammer, as was apparent from the bruises at one end. Several of the like have been picked up on these hills. And at a further attack in 1875, a jagged flint missile, and some smooth sling-stones.

90. This was a cairn of dry flints, disturbed and nearly removed, I believe, in 1851, at the time that the top of Salcombe Hill was enclosed. It is over the hedge, just at the turn of the road, on attaining the level. It is still possible that the kist-vaen may be there somewhere.

91. When the field in which 91 stands was first ploughed up, after the land had been enclosed, there was a slight eleva-



tion at this place, with a greater number of flints than elsewhere, suggesting indications of a small barrow. Many surface examinations, however, and even raking the place over with a garden rake, failed in making any discovery.

92. This is a mound of stones lying in a hollow close to the hedge by the roadside. It may be a clearance heap, but it looks very like a cairn.

93. This was one of the largest stone heaps in the neighbourhood. It had been frequently despoiled for the sake of the stones, but no proper examination made. It was not wholly removed till the summer of 1878. Mr. Charles Maer contracted with the Burial Board to make the road leading up to the new cemetery, and he employed the stones of this cairn in making the foundation of it. He told me he took away more than 250 cartloads of flints from that spot. I could not learn that any archæological discovery was made, but no one was there to look after the men.

It is very possible that there are still more burial mounds on the hills that surround Sidmouth which I have overlooked. Amongst the fern and the furze bushes they are not always easy to find. It is to be hoped that the gentlemen on whose land such objects are to be found will never allow them to be touched, except under two or three stringent conditions. First, that the person to whom permission to dig is granted shall be possessed of sufficient archæological knowledge to conduct the work properly; secondly, that he shall be prepared to take notes, sketches, or photographs of all things of interest during the progress of the operations; thirdly, that he never leave the workmen to themselves on any account whatever; fourthly, that only one barrow be taken at a time; and fifthly, that all objects found be carefully transmitted to the owner, or conveyed to some good museum. The best plan, however, would be to entrust such a work to a committee of gentlemen selected from the members of the Devonshire Association.

P. O. HUTCHINSON.