

Report of the Antiquarian Committee for the year 1917

MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND OF ETHNOLOGY,
2 May 1918.

The ANTIQUARIAN COMMITTEE beg leave to present their Thirty-third Annual Report to the Senate.

PRINTING. The Committee regret that owing to shortage of paper this report has to be issued without the usual detailed list of accessions; but the chief additions made to the collection will be found tabulated below.

FURNITURE AND FITTINGS: A small extension of the range of exhibition-cases has been made, by the addition of another large combined store-cupboard and showcase, the second of the four required for the Bevan gallery, but owing to war conditions, necessary fittings for the recently erected showcases are still incomplete.

The Keyser Gallery remains unfurnished; and lack of funds (the subscriptions to the Furniture Fund being practically exhausted) will again check any further extension of the showcases, both in the Bevan and Babington Galleries.

WORK DONE: Considerable progress has been made with the unpacking and overhauling of the collections, but, for want of showcases, most of the objects after examination have to be carefully repacked in the boxes from which they were taken.

Mr H. Devenish Skinner, B.A. (N.Z.), D.C.M., an ethnologist, who, after distinguished military service, joined the University as a Research Student, has kindly devoted several months to the examination of the New Zealand and Chatham Islands collections. A detailed catalogue of the Moriori objects has been completed by him. He is now engaged on a similar catalogue of the Maori specimens, a certain number of which will be found described and figured in "Evolutions of Maori Art" and other papers, contributed by him in 1916 and 1917 to the Royal Anthropological Institute.

The card catalogue of the Torres Straits collections is in course of preparation by Dr Haddon. The objects from the Kabiri or Girara district on the Fly River, Papua, have already been described and figured by him in the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute in 1916.

Mr H. Ling Roth devoted some days to an examination of the looms which the Museum possesses from various countries, and a number of these are described and figured in his "Studies in Primitive Looms" (Journ. R. Anthropol. Inst., 1916, 1917).

COLLECTIONS: The Government coprolite works recently started near Grantchester and Trumpington, have, so far, yielded but little of value to the Museum, and as manual labour has been largely replaced by steam "navvies," it is improbable that many antiquities will survive the rough treatment to which they are being subjected. Thanks to the courtesy of the Ministry of Munitions, the Cambridge Antiquarian Society was authorised to appoint two of its members, Mr and Mrs Teulon Porter, to watch the diggings, and to collect everything of interest for the University; consigning antiquities to the Museum of Archaeology, and objects of geological interest to the Sedgwick Museum.

The dearth of labour on the land is more and more acutely felt by the Museum in the rapid diminution of objects which are brought in from the country for sale; but, with the help of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society's grant, both the Type Collection and the Student's Series of Stone-implements have been amplified with some useful additions from Cambridgeshire and adjacent counties.

Among other gifts received, the following may be mentioned:

I. *Archaeological Section.*

1. BRITISH ISLES.

Prehistoric. From Mr A. McLaren: two stone celts (one of Hint, an unusually fine polished example), from Littlington, Cambs.

Roman. From the Cambridge Antiquarian Society (purchased from their grant to the Accessions Fund): a circular seal-case of bronze, from Cherryhinton, Cambs.

Mediaeval and Later. From the late Professor Hughes' collection hitherto deposited in the Sedgwick Museum : a large number of objects of pottery, glass, etc. (mostly imperfect) and of leather (shoes, etc.) from various excavations in the town and neighbourhood. From Mrs Basil Hammond: an inscribed wooden tally of the 14th century. From Mr John Jennings: an iron horse-muzzle, of rare form of the 14th century, and a good example of a Sussex casting in lead, of a man ploughing with a pair of homes. From F. H. H. Guillemard, M.D.: a pair of wooden gauntlet- stretchers, circa 1760. From M. R. Pryor, M.A.: a locally made dulcimer, from Stevenage, Herts.

2. FOREIGN.

Italy. From Miss E. Allen: an Etruscan bronze pendant in form of a horse, found by the donor in actual use as a weight, in a Neapolitan shop.

India. From T. C. Lewis, M.A.: four inscribed ancient copper tablets, recording gifts to temples, from Benares.

Mexico. From Baroness Anatole von Hugel: a small seated human figure, roughly carved in soap-stone.

II. *Ethnological Section.*

Italy. From Miss E. Allen : Fifty-seven charms of hand-wrought silver, of coral, and of shell, including a fine set of silver variants of the rue-leaf charm and other personal ornaments; mostly obtained by the donor from the actual wearers in Amalfi and neighbourhood.

West Africa. From Lieut. L. W. G. Malcolm : a double-faced mask, a throwing knife and a wooden figure.

Dahomey. From Mr H. Brooks : a bow, quiver, arrows and two spears from the Gold Coast; a Hausa sword, etc., and a club.

British New Guinea. From Baron A. von Hugel: forty-four selected specimens, comprising four carved house boards, twenty-seven stone implements (eleven hafted), two clubs, six shields, three drums, a double bird-scroll dancing-shield and a finely carved human figure.

Solomon Islands. From Miss Caroline Martin : twenty-three weapons, implements, ornaments, etc., from various islands, including a fine shell-inlaid javelin from Florida; collected by the donor's brother, the late Lieutenant Harrington Martin, R.N.

New Hebrides. An exceptionally valuable series of representative objects from Malekula has been acquired by private subscription (see Accessions Fund). The collection was formed by Mr E. G. Mc Afee during many years residence in the island, and comprises over three hundred specimens which the owner most generously permitted the Curator to select and to purchase for the University at cost price. The collection is now housed at Sydney and will remain there until the end of the war. When it has been added to the Layard collection recorded in last year's report, Cambridge will possess the most complete existing series of objects from Malekula.

New Caledonia. An important addition has also been made to this collection by a joint gift of Professor Bevan and Baron Anatole von Hugel. It comprises over two hundred carefully selected objects, including some remarkably fine serpentine adze heads, obtained in 1914 from the natives by P. D. Montague, B.A., Gonville and Caius College, Lieut. R.F.C. After his return to England Montague spent some time at the Museum in describing the specimens in a detailed catalogue. He subsequently joined the R.F.C., and was killed in action in Macedonia in October 1917. In him Anthropology has lost a most promising and conscientious student.

Three selected clubs have also been given by Baron A. von Hugel.

Fiji Islands. From Miss Shaw-Lefevre: nine earthenware vessels.

Chatham Islands. Professor Arthur Dendy of the University of London has enriched the Moriori collection with thirteen stone implements, two bone fish-hooks, two shark's teeth ear-pendants, and a large ornament, carved in whalebone. (Described and figured by the donor in *Trans. N.Z. Inst.*, vol. XXXIV, 1901.)

III. *Library.*

The gifts of books and pamphlets made in the current year both to the Archaeological and to the Ethnological Sections have been few, but the yearly publications of British and Foreign Societies, Museums, etc., and of Serial Publications have been received as hitherto from the various donors.

Some additions have also been made to the Collection of Portraits.

Gifts to various sections have also been presented by Mr S. Cowles, P. Giles, Litt.D. (Master of Emmanuel College), F. H. H. Guillemard, M.D., Miss M. D. Haviland, Mr John Jennings, Miss Isobelle Laughton, Mr T. Prime, and the Cambridge Antiquarian Society.

IV. *Funds.*

The following donations have been received :

	£	s.	d.
1. ACCESSIONS FUND:			
The Cambridge Antiquarian Society (for the purchase of local antiquities).....	30	0	0
Baroness Anatole von Hugel	2	0	0
For the purchase of the McAfee Malekula Collection:			
Professor Bevan	10	0	0
R. E. Froude Esq., C. B.	7	10	0
Baron Anatole von Hugel	7	10	0
Colonel C. S. Myers, M.D	5	0	0
W. H. R. Rivers, M.A.	5	0	0
A. C. Haddon, Sc. D.	1	0	0
For the purchase of the Montague New Caledonian Collection			
Professor Bevan	6	5	0
Baron Anatole von Hugel	6	5	0
2. FURNITURE AND FITTINGS FUND			
G. F. Rogers, M. D.	10	0	0
I. H. N. Evans, B.A	5	0	0

The Committee desire to express on behalf of the University their gratitude to all who, by gifts to the collections or to the funds, have so materially contributed to the progress of the Museum.

The Accounts for the year have been audited by the Committee and are incorporated in the University Accounts (*Reporter*, March 30).

<p>A. E. SHIPLEY, <i>Vice-Chancellor</i>. ARTHUR GRAY. H. P. STOKES. J. W. L. GLAISHER. A. C. HADDON. WILLIAM RIDGEWAY.</p>	<p>H. H. BRINDLEY. W. H. R. RIVERS. J. A. VENN. SYDNEY C. COCKERELL. W. B. REDFERN.</p>
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