

Plate VII shows one possible fabricator (2). Although in form it is rather different from those from Kibbanhalli it has very similar battering on both ends. 1 and 3-7 are hollow scrapers on flakes. The flakes vary greatly in size

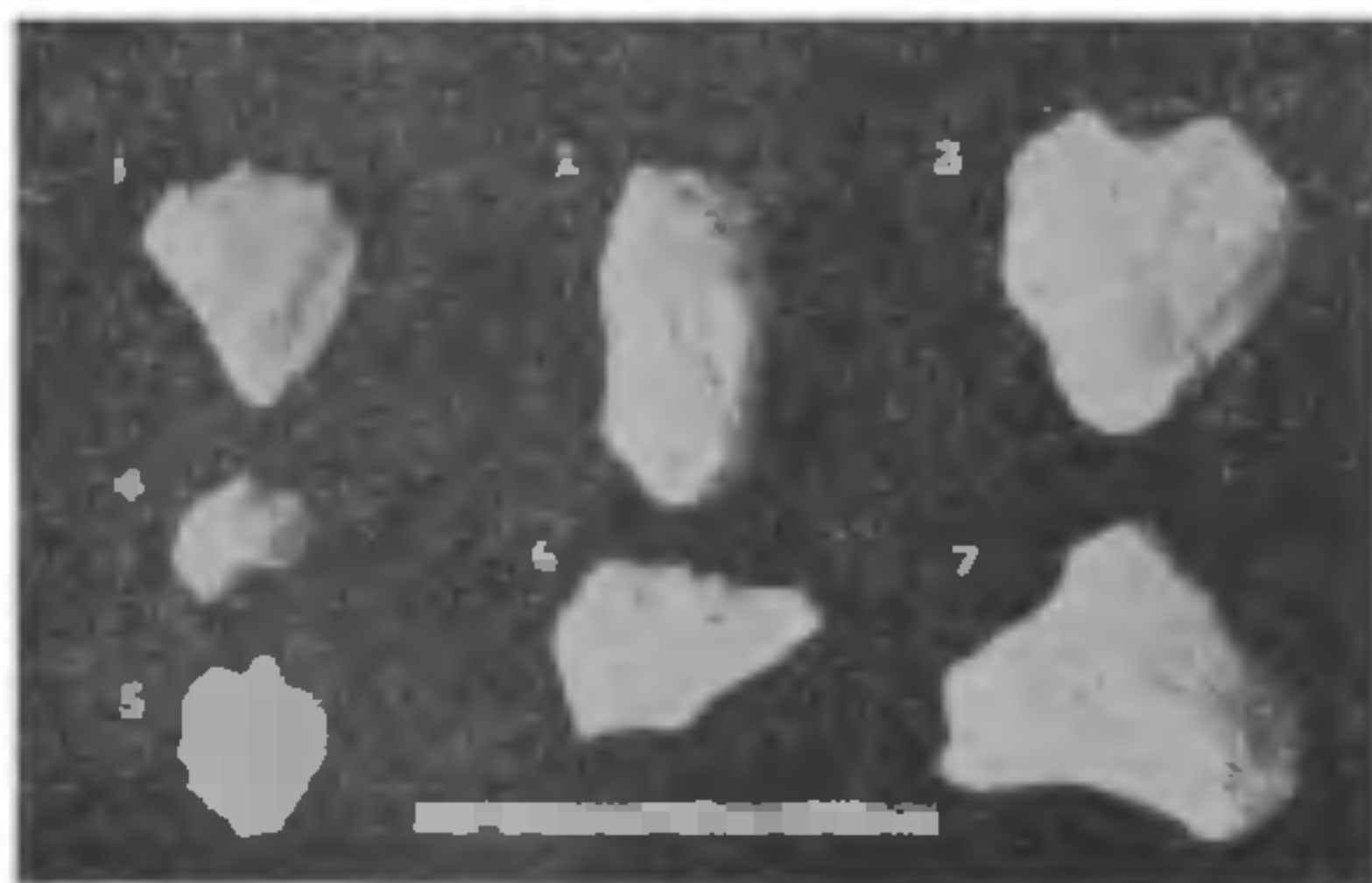


PLATE VII. From Velaungudi, Trichinopoly. 2. Fabricator (?). 1 and 3-7. Hollow Scrapers on flakes.

as do the hollow scraped edges. Several, it will be seen, have two hollows and a kind of 'beak' between them.

The difference in size of artifacts from the two sites is due to the fact that the chert in the Velaungudi area occurs only in nodules of limited size, whereas quartzite can be obtained at Kibbanhalli in lumps of almost any size from outcrops at the site. Also the finer cleavage of chert allows for much finer flaking, and this fact makes possible the manufacture of the square scrapers with straight cutting edges mentioned above. In both cases the artifacts were found at the places where the raw material used occurs. Palæolithic man in this part of the world, like his relations in South Africa appears to have come to the place where suitable stone was to be found, and made his tools

there. In this way he differs from the Neolithic inhabitants of the Deccan who often brought their raw materials for the manufacture of 'celts' and microliths considerable distances, sometimes many miles, to their homes, and made the tools there. This difference appears to be due to two causes. In the first place it is probable that palæolithic man had no permanent home. Where caves occur he no doubt occupied them, as in other parts of the world. But even this was probably only at certain seasons of the year. Like the South African bushman of today, he was in all probability a wanderer. Small groups followed the herds of game in their seasonal migrations, sleeping in the open, or building temporary shelters of sticks or leaves. But like the animals they hunted, they wandered within limits, returning to certain places at approximately the same time every year. In this way it seems probable that the same group returned regularly to their factory sites, and made a supply of artifacts, which they took away with them, leaving behind waste material and imperfect or incomplete specimens. Another reason why they made the artifacts on the spot is that their method of working entailed a large amount of waste, therefore, they would have had to carry away an enormous weight of unwanted stone. This again was different in the case of neolithic man who was far more economical in the use of raw materials.

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THE *Bombay Natural History Society Journal*, which has maintained uninterrupted publication for the last 66 years, completed its fiftieth volume with the present issue. This surely is an occasion for justifiable pride. From small beginnings—four parts of Vol. I published in 1886 contained only 234 pages—it has grown to imposing proportions, the average number of pages in the last 10 volumes being 774. For

a natural history publication conducted by a private society purely out of revenues derived from its membership subscriptions, with practically no financial aid from Government or extraneous sources, this is indeed a praiseworthy achievement.

We extend to the Journal our heartiest good wishes for a future even more splendid than the past.