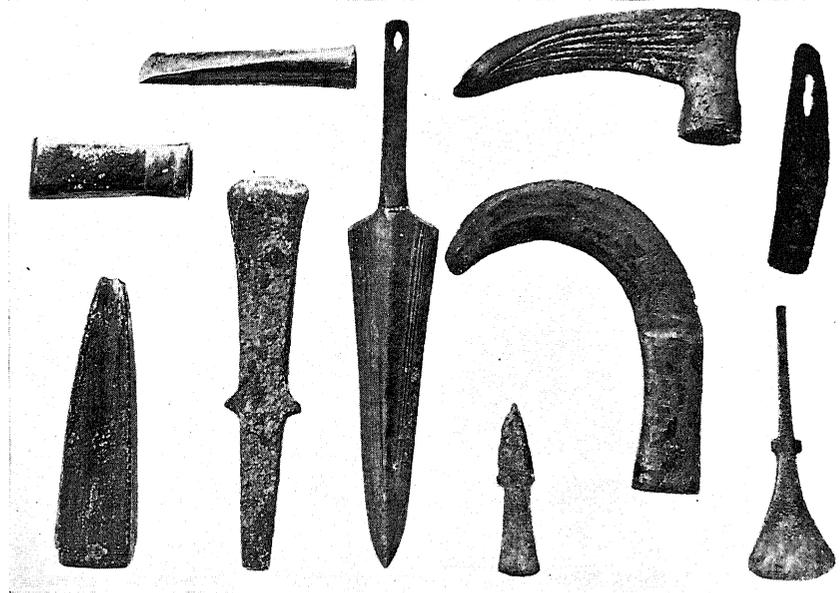


with a dye extracted from the Wode plant, and in the horrible religious rite — human sacrifice. For this and all religious matters the influence of their priests, the Druids, was responsible. These men exercised great authority, and acted as judges in cases of crime, and in other legal matters, their judgments being enforced by fear of excommunication.

They instituted great training schools, the members being exempt from taxes and military service — which fact, no doubt, proved a great inducement to enter. They taught a secret lore, and their religion included a belief in the immortality of the soul. Many superior gods, and a few local deities, such as the *genii* of the mountains, rivers and woods, were worshipped, whilst the mistletoe on the oak was specially revered.

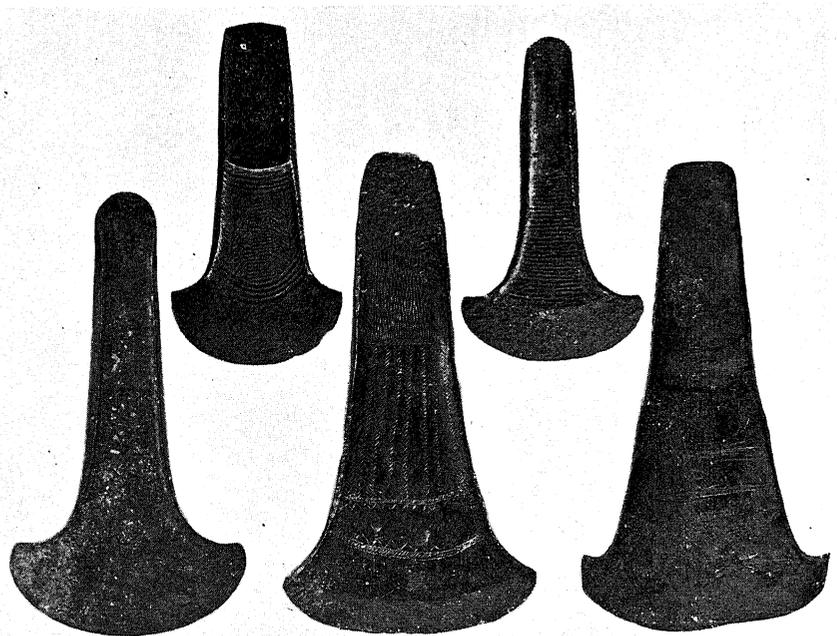
Due possibly to the Briton's belief in the immortality of the soul he was exceptionally brave in battle. His method of strategy was to mount chariots, dash round his enemy's lines and throw javelins to cause confusion amongst the ranks. He then drove a short distance off, dismounted, and engaged on foot. If defeated, he remounted the chariots and effected a safe retreat. "Thus," says Julius Caesar, "they combine the mobility of cavalry with the stability of infantry."

It was in the year 56 B.C. that this great Roman general happened to be engaged in suppressing a certain rebellious tribe in Gaul—the Veneti. They invoked aid from their kinsmen in Britain, which was sent, and it was, nominally, to punish the Britons for giving this help that Caesar decided to invade the country.



FLINT IMPLEMENTS OF THE LATER STONE AGE.

These implements, found with deer-horn picks, were manufactured by regular workmen at Grime's Graves (Norfolk) and Cissbury Hill (Sussex). The collections unearthed there were composed of unfinished objects, as when finished they were sent away for barter.



Photos by

BRONZE CELTS.

[W. A. Mansell & Co.]

The collection of celts here seen represent a second stage in the evolution of the chisel form of implement. The butt-ends of these implements were provided with side flanges which held more firmly and gave greater rigidity.

Accordingly, in 55 B.C., he embarked from Boulogne with a small force, and sailed to that part of the coast which is occupied by Dover at the present day. Here, finding that the Britons (who had

previously heard of his intention from Gaulish traders) were in full battle array on the shore, he sailed along the coast to Deal. Only the chariots and horsemen were able to keep pace with his ships, so that the Romans landed without much opposition, and after a small encounter defeated the Britons, who fled inland.

On the following day the men of Kent offered hostages, and handed over Commius, chief of the Atrebatas. Caesar had sent this man in advance from Gaul, together with some envoys of the Britons, for the latter had offered submission in the hope of inducing him to change his decision. Atrebatas was known to have influence with some of the insular tribes, and it was with the purpose of persuading them to surrender to Caesar when he landed that this chief was sent back with the envoys.

The Britons, however, had no intention of handing over their freedom so easily, and had put Commius in chains.

It happened, on the evening of the day that the Kentish men had submitted, that the Roman ships were wrecked by a heavy gale. This event made the Britons change their minds, and they did not send the hostages as arranged, but, instead, fell upon the Seventh legion who were out gathering corn, and would have annihilated them had not Caesar come quickly to their rescue. The Romans proved far too strong for the Britons and the latter were routed once more, and again sued for peace, which was granted on condition that more hostages were to be sent.

Caesar, however, did not feel any too safe on the island with his force, now quite small, and during the same night sailed secretly back to Gaul. In the following year he set out with a much larger army and landed near Sandwich.

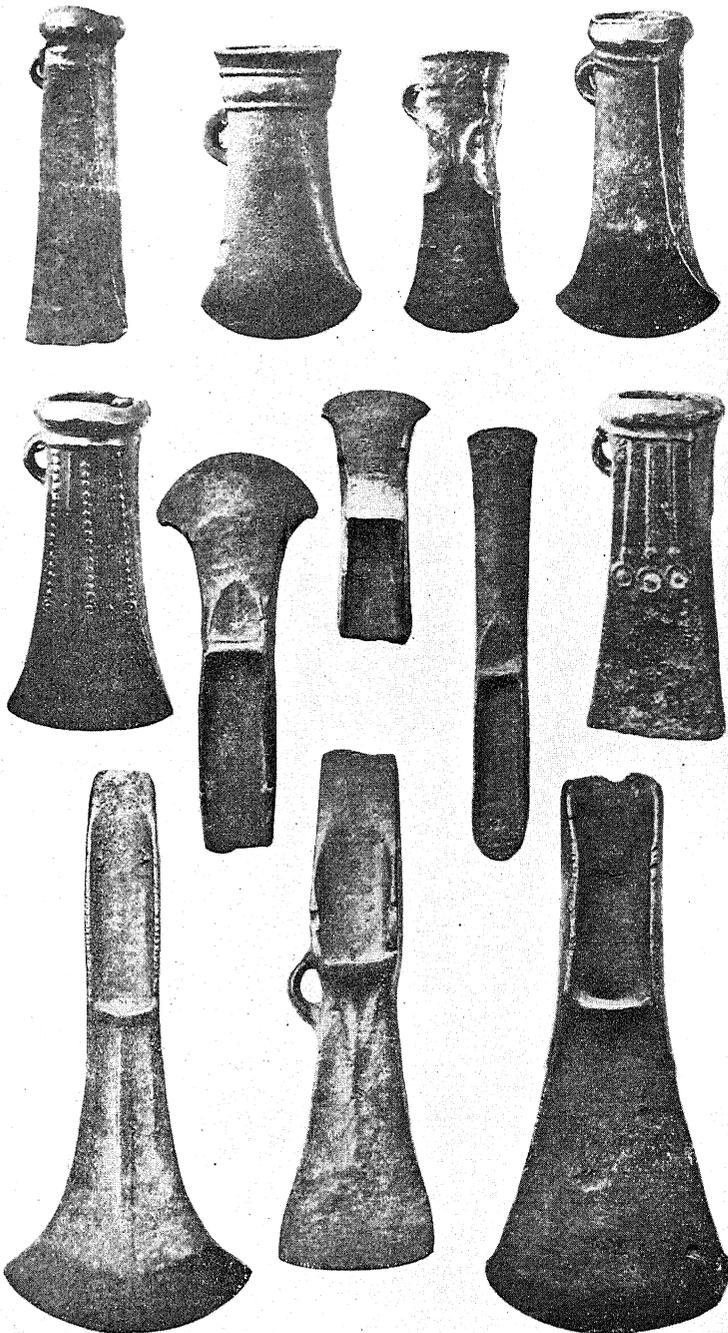
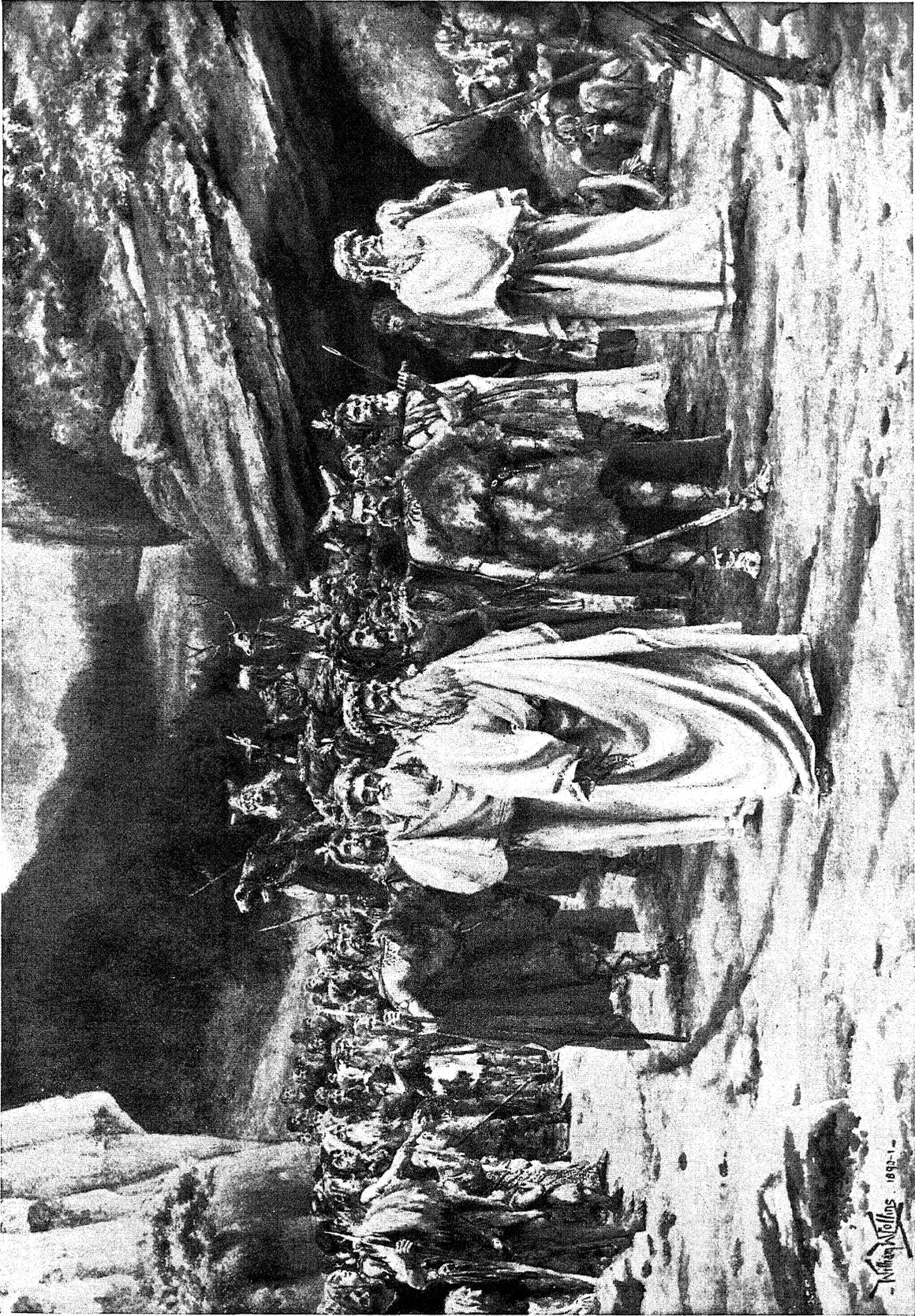


Photo by]

[W. A. Mansell & Co.

THE EARLIEST AND LATEST FORMS OF BRONZE CELTS.

In form the first bronze celts were flat wedge-shaped implements hafted by insertion into a handle. Next come axes with side flanges for hafting, and then "Palstaves," axes with butt adapted for inserting into a cleft handle. Lastly, there were axes with hollow sockets. Both flanged and socketed implements were tied to the handle by the small loops which are seen.



W. W. Collins 1892-1

From a painting

THE BURIAL OF A BRITISH CHIEFTAIN.

[By W. W. Collins.

Borne on a litter by his fellow chiefs, the body of a British chieftain is being carried to the scene of the last funeral rites. His tribesmen are thronged together on either side of the rough track, and Druid priestesses, in robes of white, lead the way. Arriving at the burial-place, a funeral pyre was lighted, and after cremation the ashes were placed in an urn, over which a barrow, or mound, was raised. The living symbolized their belief in a future existence by placing vessels containing food and drink, the necessaries of life, with the urn containing the ashes of the dead man.

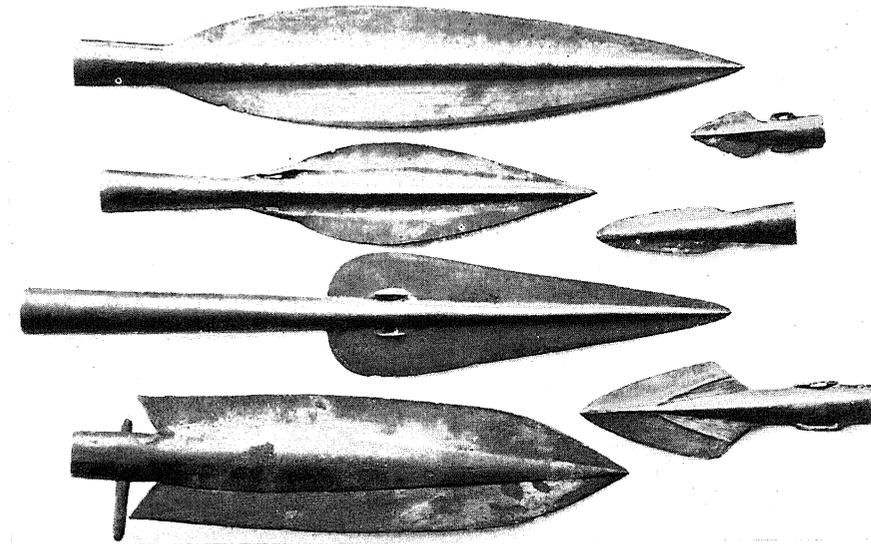


Photo by]

BRONZE SPEAR-HEADS.

Spear-heads of the Bronze Age were of the narrow leaf shape. They are much admired by experts for the perfect workmanship in the adjustment of the moulds and for the quality of the metal used.

[W. A. Mansell & Co.

willing to meet Caesar before he had collected the various tribes together, the Romans succeeded in reaching the River Stour before any resistance was offered.

On the north bank the Britons assembled to check the advance, but the steady onset of the better trained troops soon demoralized them, and they were put to flight.

After this skirmish Caesar learned that his ships had been wrecked once more, through his carelessness in not beaching them sufficiently, and some delay was caused while he returned to make arrangements for their repair.

His march to the land of the Trinobantes, where he expected to receive auxiliaries from Mandubratius, was then resumed; but before reaching it it was necessary to cross the Thames. He found the only fordable spot of the river heavily fortified with stakes and the opposing army in readiness on the opposite bank. After some difficulty the passage was forced, with the result that Cassivellaunus's army was utterly routed and fled to the fortress of Verulamium. When Caesar marched into the land of the Trinobantes, he found them only too ready to help him against their former enemy, and the Roman army was conducted to the capital of the Catuvellauni. This, though fortified to the best of the Britons' ability, proved a very slight obstacle against the Roman siege works, and was soon subdued.

There was now no alternative for Cassivellaunus but to sue for peace, and as Caesar was anxious to leave Britain, it was willingly granted. Some hostages were taken, and a promise given that more should be sent to Gaul, together with the tribute that had been exacted.

From this time henceforward for about a hundred years our knowledge of the island is scanty.

Although the Britons had known of the Roman plans early in the year, their leader, Cassivellaunus, was fully occupied in subduing a neighbouring tribe, the Trinobantes of Essex, whose king eventually he slew. In revenge, the latter's son, Mandubratius, fled to Caesar in Gaul, and promised him the support of his tribe when he should land.

With these internal troubles it may be inferred that the Britons were not prepared for an outside enemy, and as Cassivellaunus was un-



Photo by]

A BRONZE CAULDRON.

[W. A. Mansell & Co.

This cauldron, which was recovered from the Thames, was probably used as a sepulchral urn. As bronze was comparatively scarce, its use for that purpose would only be possible in the case of the wealthiest persons.

The tribute was sent as promised, but when in 52 B.C. the Gaulish chief, Vercingetorix, revolted against Roman rule the Britons thought it a good opportunity to discontinue their allegiance. At the same time the various tribes commenced their internal squabbles, the larger eventually getting the better hand and annexing the smaller. One of the chiefs who made considerable conquests at this time was Commius mentioned above, who revolted and fled to his tribe in Britain.

After his death we conclude from the evidence of coins that Cunobelinus, also known as Cymbeline, probably grandson of Cassivellaunus, became King of the Catuvellauni. This man increased his territory until he owned a large slice of the country, and Britain under his rule became exceedingly prosperous.

We learn that an extensive trade was carried on, the exports being gold, silver, iron, corn, cattle,



From the painting]

[By E. Armitage, R.A.]

JULIUS CAESAR LANDING IN BRITAIN.

In the summer of 55 B.C. Caesar landed on the Kentish coast with two legions, but little was then effected. A second expedition followed in 54 B.C., when he set out from Portus Itius, probably Boulogne, with five legions and two thousand cavalry. The expedition penetrated into Middlesex, but the British prince, Cassivellaunus, severely harassed the Romans and compelled them to return to Gaul.

slaves, hunting dogs and skins; for which the Britons received jewellery in the form of bracelets and necklaces, amber, glass vessels and ivory.

By the continual visits of British traders to Gaul, now Romanized, the influence of that great power spread to their countrymen at home. We even find that import and export duty was paid to Roman Gaul, the policy of the British chiefs no doubt being to curry favour in order to prevent the possibility of their liberty being lost through defeat at the hands of another Roman expedition.

Upon the death of Cunobelinus, the empire of the Catuvellauni broke up and the petty tribal squabbles once more ensued. As a result of one of these a chief, Bericus, and other Britons, fled to Claudius Caesar at Rome, and it has been supposed that a discourteous demand of Togodumnus and Caractacus—both sons of Cunobelinus—that these should be handed up immediately, was one of the reasons which led that Roman Emperor to send Aulus Plautius to the country to subdue it.

This general arrived in the year 43 A.D. with between thirty thousand and forty thousand men, and proceeded to march to London. The British leaders adopted similar methods of fighting to those of their ancestors in the case of Julius Caesar's expedition, and at first were content to merely harass the foreign