

meaning) -

The falchion or scimitar  
might be got from the kukri  
or yataghan blade (which  
is easily got, as you have  
shown, from the leaf-shape),



by transferring the edge  
to the simply-concave side -  
and this wd account for the  
curious form of the quasi-point  
of the short scimitar - of  
which there is still a trace  
in the slight broadening thereabouts  
of a common Indian talwar.

But, in the absence of dates to  
go by, I can get no farther at  
present than the state of total  
suspense of judgment which law  
reporters express by Ides quare.

Yours sincerely F. Pollock

You will receive the discourse naturally, as a member  
of the R.I. - but, as it may be not unacceptable for you  
to have it also in the separate Abdomen, I send a copy.

L120

48 Great Cumberland St.

W.

Aug. 2

1883

Dear Gen. Pitt Rivers

Since my discourse on  
swords (which owed more  
to your work than I had  
time to express) has been  
in print, my attention  
has been called to the  
prehistoric swords of a  
long narrow type found

by Schliemann at Mycenae  
(p. 283, I think, of his  
book on the Mycenae diggings).

They are quite unlike the  
leaf-shape, and more  
analogous to the swords  
of the Assyrian sculptures  
than to anything else I  
know. Likewise there

occurred in the same tombs  
one or two bronze falchions

or rude scimitars  
of this kind of shape.

(see Schliemann's figures  
of them)

It would seem therefore  
that a long, narrow, pointed  
type, and also a falchion  
type, are of extreme antiquity,  
and - so far as positive  
evidence goes - may be as  
old as the leaf-shape or  
older. If not derived from  
it, as they may not be,  
what is their origin?  
especially the slender one,  
which one might call the  
estoc type? (not rapier,  
the word used by Schliemann,  
which has a definite modern