

there was one, and I rightly  
(as you now explain) set down the  
non-appearance of an answer to  
illness. I think it was about what  
to me is a complete puzzle, viz.  
the occurrence here of Roman  
graves in the counterscarp of  
the Roman fossa, as far as I  
can ascertain. This town deserves  
a Vol: of 'excavations' if you could  
but make time to have digging  
done.

Trusting that you will soon  
perfectly recover, and again  
thanking you for your letter,

I am  
Yours truly  
H. J. Moule

Major Genl Pitt Rivers.  
R.E. F.S.A. &c.

P.S. If the hook of which I sent a rude  
sketch were a little stouter, I should  
think it to be an excellent relation of the  
hooks on waggons now, and used for  
fastening ropes for securing a load  
of hay &c. I trust that I may have the ad-  
vantage of seeing excavations Vol. IV, at this Museum

Dorchester. Mar. 16. 1894.

21765

My dear Sir,

Pray accept my very  
best thanks for your kind-  
ness in answering my letter,  
now when you are suffering  
from illness. I do hope that  
this may soon cease.

I well remember your  
personally telling me that  
you thought that the hippo-  
pondal might be for temporary  
protection of a broken hoof  
in the days before the Romans  
took to shoring their houses.  
But I did not, till now, know  
that you think that it may  
have also served as a splint

for a broken bone. I confess that to my mind it seems not long enough to be available for that purpose. But I dare say I am wrong.

I well know the Irish long-handled shovels of iron, which I take it are the 'loys' which you have. But I never when in Ireland saw them of wood, only shod with iron. But they certainly exist there. Capt. Williams was quite clear about it. Just such shovels (of iron) were in use here in my boyhood, but I don't see them now. The wooden shovel, iron-shod, and of the same kite-shape as our Roman one, was in use in England all through the middle ages I suspect. You quote the Bayeux

Tapestry. And in an 'Hours' belonging to the Fetherstonhaugh. From flow, in the 'Office for the dead' there is a 'miniature' of a funeral, with a wooden, iron-shod, kite-shaped spade in use. This is of the 14th cent.

We have a good number of nails from the Lifhead the site of Roman site. Remembrance that you think ancient nails a worthy subject of study I have set them up on a board rather carefully. One of them is different to my eye, from any illustrated in 'Excavations' Vol. iii. It is round, chisel pointed, & seems to have had its flat head 'chilled' or welded on after the shank was finished, the latter projecting a little above the head - somewhat so -



You kindly refer to a letter of mine which was unanswered. Yes