

Ans^d.

SOC. ANTIQ. LOND.
BURLINGTON HOUSE, PICCADILLY. W.

13 Oct. 1891

Dear General Pitt Rivers

Can you kindly tell me where we can procure the necessary instruments for measuring bones, etc? We have got a very fine collection from Silchester this year, & Mr Jones (whose name very properly rhymes with bones) has them under examination.

Mr Cooper is definitely
giving up his tenancy of
Silchester next Michaelmas
& is joining his two sons
in Tasmania. The farm
contains 500 acres & the
rent is £300 a year.

Perhaps you can find
a suitable tenant who
looks kindly on archaeology,
a better thing still would
be for you to take it,
& then —

Yours sincerely
W. H. John Hope

Rushmore,

Salisbury.

Oct. 16th, 1891.

Dear Mr. Hope,

I very much hope you will follow my method of measuring the bones, as described in my Vols. I & II of the Excavations. A comparison is only possible by following minutely the same system and measuring exactly in the same manner. By this means I think that very valuable comparisons may be made, but unless the same system precisely is adopted, comparisons would only mislead. It will be interesting to ascertain whether the horse, ox, and sheep of Silchester are of the same size as here. All that is necessary is to have a sliding measure of the kind shown in Vol. I, p. 187, to which a measure in millimetres can be attached, which can be obtained at Elliott's, or any optician. You can get the size at the shoulder of my test animals from Vol. II, p. 215 & seq., and unless you intend to kill your own test animals, you must adopt these. The measurements of the skulls are given in p. 181. They have been adopted by one or two foreign archaeologists, and if once a uniform system can be introduced a great point will be gained. Professor Flower's callipers are the best instruments for measuring the parts of the skulls. They can be obtained at Stanley's, Great Turnstile, Holborn. I can have a sliding measure made here, if you like, and you can get the scale of millimetres added to it.

I sent a cheque for £50 to Mr. Freshfield more than a fortnight ago, addressed to the Society of Antiquaries, being the remainder of my subscription to the Society of Antiquaries Research Fund, and on Sunday last, I wrote to him again, asking if he had received it and have obtained no answer. Would you please ascertain whether he has received the letter, as I would stop the payment of the cheque, if it is lost.

Yours very truly,

A. Pitt Rivers.

P.S. The small tapes for measuring the circumference of the bones can be obtained at Elliott's or probably at Stanley's. They should be in millimetres.