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16. On an Ornament of Unknown Use and a Quartzite Knife from Moreton Bay, Queensland.

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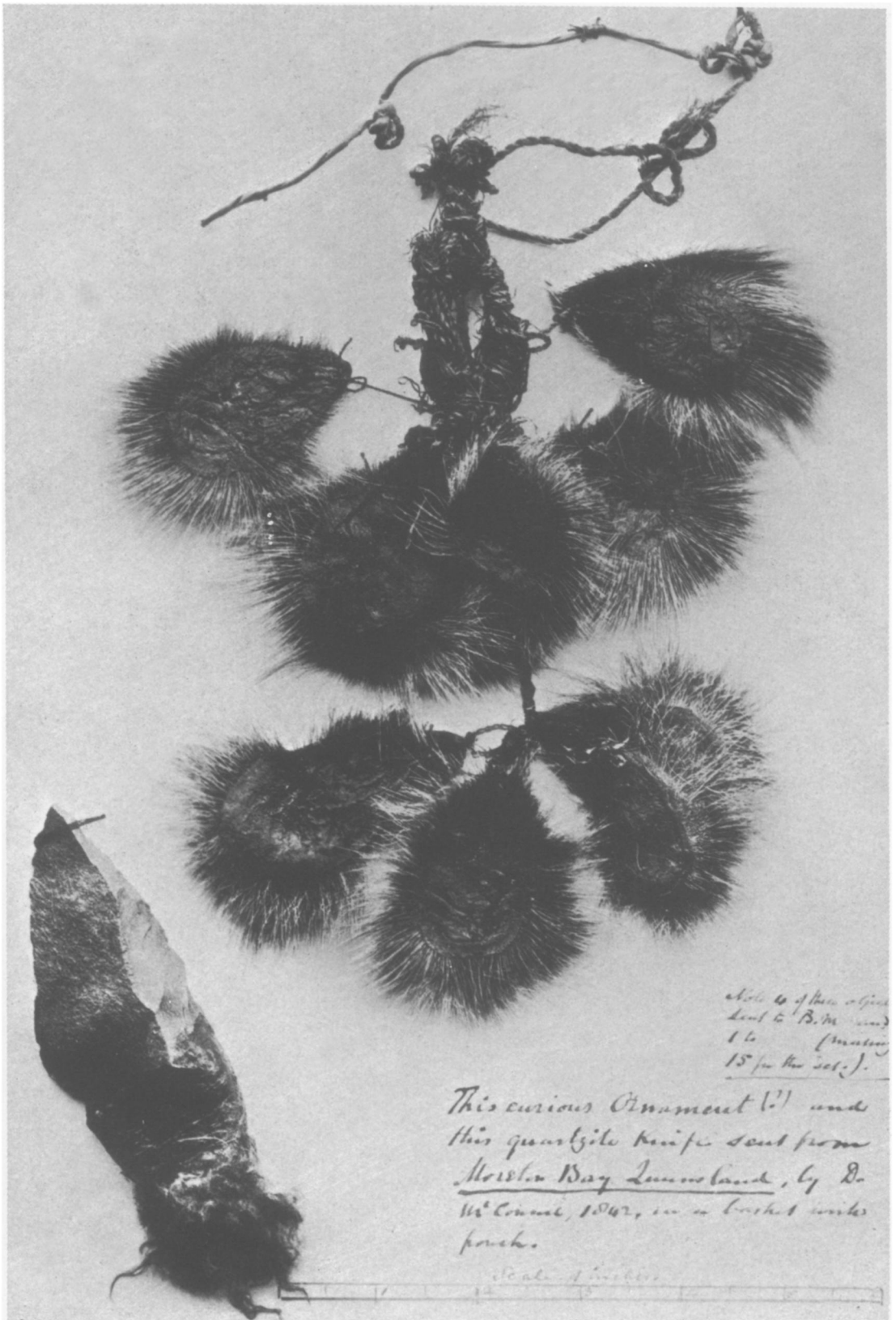
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Ornament and Quartzite knife from Moreton Bay, Queensland

## ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

Australia. With Plate C. Darbshire: Myres.

**On an Ornament of Unknown Use and a Quartzite Knife from Moreton Bay, Queensland.** Exhibited on behalf of R. D. Darbshire, **16**  
*F.S.A., Victoria Park, Manchester, at a Meeting of the Anthropological Institute on 29th April 1902; and described by J. L. Myres, M.A., F.S.A.*

The curious object which is figured in the upper part of Plate C. was sent home in 1842 by Dr. McConnel from Moreton Bay, Queensland. It was sent enclosed in a basket-work pouch, together with the quartzite knife which is figured below it in the plate. In the same consignment came also two stone axes, one rude, the other polished; both showing traces of having been mounted with "gum" in some sort of hafting. The objects figured in Plate C. are now in the collection of Mr. R. D. Darbshire; the other "objects" mentioned in the MS. note on the plate are the stone axes above-mentioned, and certain other stone implements given to Mr. Darbshire by a friend who was pioneering in North Australia.

The quartzite knife needs little comment. Mr. Darbshire's North Australian pioneer informed him that the larger knives of his own series were definitely used for fighting, and the smaller ones as scrapers.

The other object consists of eight small seamless bags of skin, covered on one side with short bristly hair. They are attached by short cords to a rough loop of clustered cords, and apparently served as a pendant ornament of some kind. The bags, which are too small, too shrunken, and have been pressed too flat and hard, to be of any use as receptacles, seem to be simply the dried *scrota* of some animal. They have been submitted for examination to the Natural History Department of the British Museum; but no determination of the species was possible.

Nor is it possible at present to assign to them any purpose or meaning. As charms their use might easily be conjectured; as an article of use, the *scrotum* of a young goat is valued by the Greeks of Anatolia and the Levant, but merely as a purse or a tobacco pouch: this, however, is simply because it is seamless and not easy to obtain, and, so far as I know, without any further reason whatever.

Probably other examples of this kind of object exist in other collections, and it is in the hope of eliciting further information from such sources that the present preliminary note is being published.

JOHN L. MYRES.

Africa, East.

Hobley.

**Notes concerning the Eldorobo of Mau, British East Africa.** **17**  
*By C. W. Hobley, Assoc.M.I.C.E., Local Correspondent of the Anthropological Institute.*

To the east of Nandi country, in the Mau Forest north-east of Mount Tinderet, live a tribe of so-called Eldorobo people, who, like other branches of their race, exist solely by hunting, and possess neither flocks nor herds, neither do they cultivate the soil.

By the Nandi they are called the Oggiek, and they call themselves the Omotik. They have intimate relations with the Eastern Nandi, and generally speak the Nandi language; in fact, numbers of the young Nandi men, for whom the free hunting life has a charm, leave their homes and go and settle among these people for some years, and probably marry Oggiek women. It is thus difficult to discover what is the true aboriginal type of the race. The representatives with whom I have come in contact had, however, redder complexions than the majority of the Nandi, and had very peculiar eyes, which reminded one somewhat of the Mongolian type. In height they averaged 5 feet 8 inches to 5 feet 10 inches.

Their marriage customs are very simple: the suitor merely presents the father of the girl with some beer made from the sap of the "mkindu," or wild date palm, and a few monkey-skin cloaks, or "karosses," and takes away his bride.