

## Further Notes on the Human Teeth from Aveline's Hole, Burrington Combe.

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Since the last Report a number of human teeth have been recovered from the Old Spoil Heap in the cave. With these it is not necessary to deal in detail save in one or two cases. Firstly, there is a lower molar the crown of which has been fractured, and the surface then so worn down by subsequent use as to expose the actual canal of the anterior root, and to separate the posterior root from the remainder of the tooth. Secondly, there are no carious teeth in this group, but a number of teeth shew extensive exostosis, irregular in character, of the roots; this condition is chiefly confined to the molars.

Amongst the material found some time ago is a portion of a right maxilla consisting chiefly of the alveolar portion, and a part of the palate. There are several points of pathological interest about this fragment. Firstly, the following teeth had been lost a sufficient time before death to allow the bone to heal completely, namely  $M_3 M_2 P_{m1} C$ . The incisor portion is unfortunately missing, and no teeth were present in the maxilla when it was discovered, but it is possible that  $M_1 P_{m2}$  had been lost shortly before death. At all events  $M_1$  had had a chronic abscess on each of the three roots; of these the one on the palatal root was by far the largest, and all the alveolus covering the root on its palatal aspect had been destroyed prior to the death of the individual.

In November 1923 a stalagmite shelf was discovered attached to the south wall of the cave opposite the Old Spoil Heap. Amongst the numerous human remains found was a small part of the alveolar portion of a right maxilla; the teeth present were  $M_3 M_2 P_{m2} P_{m1}$ . There is extensive exostosis of an irregular character covering the apical two-thirds of the fused roots of the third molar, while the same is true, though to a rather less extent, of the second molar. The second premolar has a very long root, while the roots of the first premolar are greatly and irregularly exostosed in the apical half. The palatal root of this tooth, which was originally two rooted, had been formed for only about half its length when the jaw was subjected to such violence that the remaining portion of it was formed irre-

gularly, and out of line with the first portion.<sup>1</sup> The roots are at present fused by the very extensive exostosis that had taken place. An upper canine which might well belong to this maxilla has a bend in its root at a level corresponding to the line of disturbance in the premolar, namely about 10 years.

A second upper left premolar found in association with the above has a very abrupt bend at a point half way up the root which is extensively exostosed for the remainder of its length. This would suggest that the individual sustained violence involving both sides of the upper jaw at about the age of ten years.

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<sup>1</sup> This diagnosis was confirmed by means of an x ray examination.

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