plain, and simple as possible, conforming as nearly as may be to the popular terms in use, and above all that there should be nothing to mislead an ignorant person. Now I would ask what idea is conveyed to an ordinary unscientific mind by the term "snow-sheet"? The name is perfectly correct if read in the light of M. Poëy's explanation; but to an average lighthouse-keeper or coastguard it would certainly convey the idea of a so-called "pallio cumulus," ready to discharge snow, and would be used accordingly.

"Wind cloud" appears also distinctly misleading. To most minds it would, I believe, imply a cirrus or cirro-cumulus, as being the harbinger of wind. We have two excellent names in common use—"scud" and "rack,"—either of which would serve.

"Stratified cloud" is a very vague term, applicable to many varieties besides "cirro-stratus."¹

Objections might also fairly be raised against "Belt cloud," as compared with the familiar "Noah's ark" which Poëy himself quotes elsewhere, and to the "Globular tempestuous cloud," as a very cumbersome term, although a correct one.

It is to be hoped that all these details will be fully discussed before M. Poëy's suggestions are either admitted into general use, or, on the other hand, too readily rejected. E. II.

Walthamstow, Essex

NOTE.—The references are to Howard's *Essay on the Modifications of Clouds*, third edition, Churchill, 1865, and to Poëy's *Comment on observe les Nuages*, Paris, 1879.

"Chipped Arrow heads"

IN a number of NATURE (vol. xx. p. 483) which only lately reached us here I read an interesting account of Mr. Cushing's researches into the manufacture of flint weapons as practised by aboriginal tribes; and as I have had many opportunities of observing the method by which the Fuegians of Magellan's Straits fashion their glass arrow-heads, a few words on the matter may not be without interest to some of your readers.

One of the indications of the increase of traffic through these Straits which has of late years taken place is that empty bottles are now to be found about the shores of those anchorages which are used by passing vessels as stopping-places for the night; and bottle-glass is consequently the material used by the Fuegians of the present day, to the exclusion of obsidian, quartz, or flint. The following is the process:—A fragment somewhat approaching to the shape of the intended arrow-head is grasped firmly in the left hand, while in the right hand is held an old iron nail stuck into a short wooden handle. The fingers of the closed right hand are turned upwards, and the point of the nail is directed towards the operator's breast. He then presses with great force the blunt point of the nail obliquely against the edge of the piece of glass, when a thin scale flies off towards him. One side of the edge having been bevelled in this way, the glass is turned round, and the opposite edge flaked off in a similar manner. Working the edges alternately in this way, the glass is readily brought to the required shape. The fashioning of the point is the most difficult part of the process, the formation of the barbs being easily effected.

I have seen a native thus make a large arrow-head out of a piece of broken pickle bottle in about half an hour. The glass is never struck, but is fashioned entirely by pressure. After a little practice I succeeded in making fair imitations.

I find, moreover, that the iron tool above mentioned can be dispensed with, and that the flaking may be effected by pressing with an angular flint or with a piece of bone, which were probably the methods used by the Fuegians before they possessed any iron implements. K. W. COPPINGER

H.M. Surveying Ship *Alert*, Swallow Bay, Straits of Magellan, March 21

Cup and Ring Stones

IN reply to Mr. Middleton's letter I beg to say that the Ilkley cup and ring stones have been carefully described and illustrated in a paper read by me before the Brit. Archæolog. Assoc. (see *Journal B. A. A.* for 1879, p. 93).

Further information will be found in Sir Jas. Simpson's work on the subject, which forms the appendix to vol. vi. of the *Proc.*

¹ I am not aware whether *Geschichtete Wolken* is an accepted term in Germany. In the Bernese Oberland a very expressive name is used, *Gestreifte Wolken*, only too well known to mountaineers.

Soc. Ant. Scot., and in Prof. Boyd Dawkins' "Early Man," p. 338.

In a large number of instances cup and ring marks have been found on the stones of cists, stone circles, and menhirs. It would therefore appear that they are connected with sepulchral rites. Cup marks are found in Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Northumberland, Yorkshire, Cumberland, Lancashire, Switzerland, Sweden, and India (see Rivett Carnac's papers in *Journal of Asiatic Society of Bengal*, 1878-9). I should be glad of evidence of their existence in Derbyshire and elsewhere in the South of England. J. ROMILLY ALLEN

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Songs of Birds

CAN any musical reader of NATURE transcribe for me the notes of the king lorry (*Aprosinectus scapularis*)? May not the *major* and *minor* keys of the cuckoos noticed by John Birmingham be sexual characteristics? The males are believed to exceed the females in number in the proportion of four or five to one, and, if this be so, the male note must be heard more often than the female. The "jerkiness of style" in the *major* cuckoo, as described, suggests that the performer is a female. A. N.

C. W. HARDING.—The teeth belong to a young horse—not yet "in mark" (*Equus caballus*). Their geological horizon appears uncertain, and they are as likely to be historic or prehistoric as pleistocene.

COMPARATIVE ANATOMY OF MAN¹

III.

Modifications of the Negro type.—At several parts of the equatorial region of Africa, from the Gulf of Guinea to the White Nile, indications have been met with of a small race of negroes, sometimes so small that the name of pygmy may truly be applied to them, differing from the ordinary negro in the short rounded form of the head. These bear some resemblance to the diminutive members of the oceanic black races who inhabit some parts of the East Indian Archipelago, especially the Andaman Islands, and to whom the name *Negrillo* is now generally applied, and Dr. Hamy, who has collected together all the evidence at present accessible as to their existence, has proposed to distinguish them by the term *Negrillo*. The Akkas of Schweinfurth appear to belong to this race. In many districts they are more or less mixed with the ordinary negroes, and their physical characters are therefore obscured, but some skulls from the West Coast of Africa in the collection of Dr. Barnard Davis bear a striking resemblance to those of the Andamanese, and have a cephalic index of 80 or upwards.

The greater part of Africa, between the equator and the most southern parts, where the Hottentots and Bushmen dwell, is inhabited by negroes, who for linguistic reasons are grouped together, and separated from the more northern tribes, and are now generally known to ethnologists by the name of *Bantu*. Their range seems to have extended southwards in comparatively recent times, encroaching upon that of the original inhabitants. They are a pastoral people, warlike, energetic, and intelligent, owning large herds of cattle, and living in villages composed of a number of beehive-like huts. The southern Bantu, who at present are the best known, from their vicinity to the British and Dutch settlements of South Africa, are divided by Fritsch into 1. The Ama-Xosa, who inhabit at present the south-east portions of the Bantu territory, adjoining the sea, between the Cape Colony and Natal. To these the name *Kafir*, derived from an Arabic word applied to them as unbelievers or heathens, is commonly given, but the name is sometimes used in a wider sense for the Bantu negroes generally. The Ama-Xosa include the well-known tribes of Gaikas and Galeikas, with whom we were at war in 1877. 2. The Ama-Zulu,

¹ Abstract Report of Prof. Flower's lectures at the Royal College of Surgeons, March 1 to March 19, on the Comparative Anatomy of Man. Continued from p. 80.