

since the last 18 months. The stock raised from our experimental nursery under control conditions has been distributed to different parts in the State to study the effects of varying soil and climatic factors. Details regarding their silviculture, active principle content, etc., will be published elsewhere. We should like to record here that, contrary to the widespread impression that *Pyrethrum* does not flower below an altitude of 6,000 feet, the species has flowered both at Bangalore (ca. 3,100 ft.) and at Kemmangundi (ca. 5,000 ft.).

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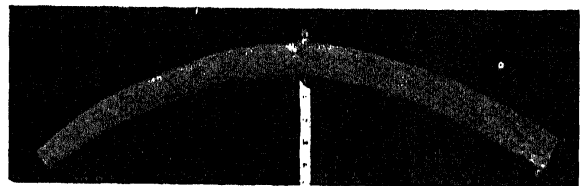
¹ *Curr. Sci.*, 1938, 7, 258.

A Type of Boomerang from Palanpur

OF the two types of boomerangs used in India the so-called returning type is figured both in Egerton's¹ book and in Thurston's.² The other type is, as far as I can know, figured only once in Egerton's³ book. The two specimens of the first type figured by Thurston differ among themselves as well as from the specimens figured by Egerton as regards their curvature. The type occurs both in Gujarat as well as in South India as seen from the description of the specimens by Egerton⁴ and Thurston.⁵ Gujarat specimens are made of wood while South Indian ones are either of wood or of ivory. The other type called 'Katar' or 'Katariya' and described by Egerton as used by 'Koles' (Kolis) of Gujarat is made of wood. The one specimen of this type figured by him shows rather a sharp angle at the centre. Three such specimens are recorded by him and their length on the outer curve is given to be 2' 6" to 3'. He has not given measurements of width.⁶ Egerton lists⁷ and describes a boomerang 'Singa' from Southern India as made of steel with a length of 18" to 21" and a width of 2½" to 3".

From the description, with width specified, it appears that this boomerang of steel from Southern India may be of the type of the simple boomerang of the second type and described by Egerton as being used by the 'Koles' of Gujarat. If it is so, and here I should mention that the specimen is not figured anywhere, this ordinary boomerang, like the other one, is in use both in the North as well as in the South. What the shape of the Southern type may be it is not possible to judge, for lack of illustration.

While on tour in the State of Palanpur in February 1938, I procured a specimen of the ordinary type of boomerang used by lower classes for hunting small game. The length of the curve on the outer side is 29.5" and the width of the two ends is 1.5" and 1.3" respectively. As the illustration makes it clear,



the specimen has a more flowing curve than the specimen illustrated by Egerton. Perhaps the nature of the curve of this implement depended more on the natural curve of the wood used than on conscious selection.*

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¹ *An Illustrated Handbook of Indian Art*, 1880, Fig. 15, 4, p. 73.

² *Ethnographic Notes in Southern India*, 1907, Pl. XXXVII.

³ *Loc. cit.*, Fig. 15, 1.

⁴ *Loc. cit.*, pp. 78-81.

⁵ *Loc. cit.*, p. 56.

⁶ *Loc. cit.*, p. 78.

⁷ *Loc. cit.*, p. 81, No. 70.

*The specimen is deposited in the Government Museum, Madras.