

one of the moles gave me a very unpleasant nip, biting through the sack and my clothes.

When put in a strong wire cage the mole first tried to burrow, but finding that absolutely impossible, tried to bite the wires all round, and that failing, became sullen and quiet. The animal can evidently see for short distances.

Besides these moles, which are a great pest in gardens, there is a little Insectivorous mole (*Chrysochloris inauratus*), the Golden-mole, which is not more than half the size of our English mole, and has a dark silky fur shot with most brilliant metallic golden tints. This mole makes quite superficial runs in the ground, so near the surface that the earth is raised all along the run, and hence the track can be followed everywhere above ground. When one of these is seen at work, it can be thrown out with a stick or spade at once.

I several times went over the hills to the coast on the other side of the promontory. At White Sands, nearly opposite, are a series of shell mounds, or "kitchen middens," which occur also at Cape Point and many places along the coast. There are huge mounds of large *Patelle*, *Haliotis*, and other shells; the limpets are so large as to make convenient drinking cups.

All about the mounds are to be found various stone implements used by the people, either Bushmen or Hottentots, who made the mounds (probably Bushmen). There are flat stones, each with a long shallow groove worn on them, and small cylindrical stones lying about which fit the hand, and have evidently been used for rubbing up and down the grooves, and have indeed thus worn them. The use of these grooved stones is uncertain. The usual idea is that various bulbs and roots used by the midden people were ground in them. Perhaps they used them partly for pounding or rubbing tender the hard muscular foot of *Haliotis*, *Patella*, and other Gasteropods, to prepare them for eating.

*Haliotis* (the large Ear-shell) is now prepared at the Cape for eating by pounding, as also at the Channel Islands. The *Haliotis*, as cooked at the Cape, is excellent, quite a luxury. No iron is allowed to touch it in preparation; it must be got out of the shell with horn or wood implements, then pounded with stone or wood and finally stewed. It is considered that if iron touches the animal it becomes rigidly contracted and hopelessly tough. It is quite possible that the popular opinion may be correct, and that contact with iron may produce a rigid tetanus of the muscles.

Some of the grooved stones have grooves on both sides, one groove having been evidently worn out. Some of the grooves are as much as a foot long and two inches, or a little more, in width.