Each newly discovered one is of interest and perhaps a note should be made of the occurrence of a rather large dike recently found. It has been exposed at the eastern side of the Portland cement quarry east of Shurger Point, six miles north of Ithaca. It is the first of the Ithaca region dikes found in limestone and is exposed for the height of the Tully limestone at the north and south walls of the quarry and in the shales along the quarry bed.

No contact action was noticed. In places there is a thin calcite streak at the side of the dike, in others there is a tight contact between dike and wall rock. Striæ on the calcite gave evidence of horizontal movement. The dike varies in width from 11″ to 18″ and is decidedly green, due to the serpentine in it. It strikes about N 3° E., parallel to the dip joints, like all the dikes near Ithaca. There may be some connection between this dike and a group of smaller dikes east of Ludlowville, two miles to the north.

PEARL SHELDON

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THE HAWAIIAN OLONA

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: In SCIENCE[1] for September 10, 1920, p. 240, Mr. Vaughan MacCaughey again calls attention to the remarkably durable fiber of the Hawaiian Oloná, and quotes Dr. N. Russel's rather inaccurate account of the people making the fiber and its products, fish nets and cords, some used especially for fish-lines. In view of the possible importance of this product, it seems worth while to correct certain statements. The name of the bird caught for its yellow feathers was O-o not O-u. As late as 1864, when the present writer first visited the Hawaiian Islands, there were some natives at Olaa still beating the mamake kapa and twisting the oloná fiber on their thighs. On the island of Molokai, as late as 1889 a photograph was taken of a native scraping the fiber. Surely Mr. MacCaughey must be aware that in the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, is a fine cast from life of a native preparing this fine fiber, and there are many specimens of both the raw material, the finished product and the *laau kahioloná* or scraper which was sometimes a shell *papaua* (*Meleagrina margaritifera*) but more commonly a sharpened bone from the back of the *honu*, a sea turtle not a (fish, as Dr. Russel has it). The boards were made of any hard wood; the *naou* of Dr. Russel was perhaps the *naio*, or bastard sandalwood.

As a specimen of the remarkable durability of the fiber, there is in the Bishop Museum a ball of fish-line used by the Kamehamehas for a hundred years and it is still in perfect condition.

WILLIAM T. BRIGHAM

[1] N. S., Vol. LII., No. 1341.

QUOTATIONS

PROFESSOR MICHELSON ON THE APPLICATION OF INTERFERENCE METHODS TO ASTRONOMICAL MEASUREMENTS

THE first information Professor A. S. Eddington, Plumian professor of astronomy at Cambridge University, received that his theoretical deductions concerning the angular diameters of certain stars and of the Betelgeuse, in particular, had been confirmed by Professor Michelson [in his paper at the Chicago meeting] was from a cable message from the *New York Times*. He was extremely interested and delighted at the results obtained and is anxiously awaiting full details.

Talking to the *New York Times* correspondent he pointed out that many years ago Professor Michelson suggested a plan for measuring, at any rate to a much greater degree of accuracy than before, diameters of stars by the wave theory of light.

"For some time now," he said, "they have been carrying on these experiments at Mount Wilson, and I presume that it is there that these most interesting results have been obtained. The great difficulty that they have had to contend with has, of course, been what is known as atmospheric tremor. They have been trying Michelson's methods and previously had obtained some very interesting results, but these were only with regard to very close double stars. By this means they got some very successful results with double stars, but when they