

- D.—The inner ditch of the Castle, now made into severall Gardens.
- E.—A Garden, which the Patentee hath let to him that keepeth the prison.
- F.—The Prison, comon for the shire, builte upon the Castle grounde, and carried away, with divers other howses, by one Mr. Suthcote, as is sayd—by what right is not known.
- G.—Are certain Orchards and Gardens which I thinke ought to belong in righte to the Castle, which with manie howses seem to be also carried away by some citizens. Compare the lyinge of G. with H., and it will plainly appear lying all upon the side of the Castle Ditch, on the Brow of the Hill towards the Citie.
- H.—Belongeth to the Castle, and the Patentee hath granted his Estate thereof unto Mr. Manwayringe, whose Orcharde adjoynes it, and hath boughte upon the Castle lande a row of some eight tenements.
- I.—Mr. Manwayring's new tenementes.
- K.—The Castle Hill, the Bank and fall of the Castle Ditche, whereof, wth the ditch itselfe, the Citizens take the profit, contayning about four acres of Pasture, upon p^t whereof they have rayled in a bowling-greene, being the Prince's demesne land."

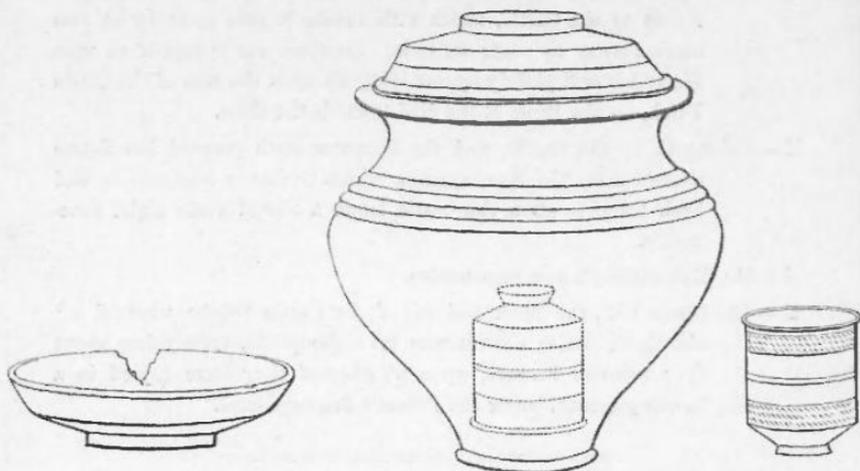
ACCOUNT OF ROMAN URNS DISCOVERED AT CHESTERFORD,
AND NOW PRESERVED IN THE MUSEUM OF THE HON.
RICHARD NEVILLE, F.S.A.

EARLY in January of the present year, Mr. Neville was informed that a Roman urn, covered by a lid, had been discovered at Chesterford, where he has in the course of recent investigations exhumed such an extensive and varied series of Roman fictile vessels, of which, by his kind liberality, so many curious examples have been brought before the Institute, and published in the "Journal," on former occasions. It was discovered by a man who was clearing a drain, close to the Cambridge line of railway, about an eighth of a mile from the Chesterford station, and immediately behind the Greyhound Inn, in the village of Chesterford.

The urn was deposited only about eighteen inches deep, and it was carefully taken out with the supposed cover: it was not in any way disturbed until brought to Mr. Neville. On examining it, the so-called lid was found to be a patera of "Samian" ware, placed in an inverted position over the top of the large urn, and certainly serving all the purposes of a lid, as well as if it had been made on purpose. On taking off the lid, the large urn was found to be filled with earth and

ashes ; amongst which, on taking them out, there was discovered a small vase, of rather peculiar shape, slightly ornamented and made of very well baked clay, of a dark black colour.

The accompanying representations give the forms of these fictile vessels as they were discovered :



Anglo-Roman vessels discovered at Chesterford, Essex.

The large urn is an *olla* of black ware, and ornamented with circular rings, as shown in the woodcut. The dimensions of this vessel are as follows :—height, 9 inches ; diameter (mouth), 7 inches ; diameter (base), $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches ; greatest diameter, 9 inches. It contained earth, ashes, and the small curious vessel already noticed. The precise position of this urn, as discovered within the larger vase, is indicated in the woodcut by a faint outline (as if the vessel were transparent). The “Samian” patera in its inverted position is seen, serving the purpose of a cover to the vase.

The vase which was thus found in an inverted position, deposited amongst the ashes inside the former, is a small cup of fine black ware, very well fired, and ornamented with circular indented rings and dots, apparently made with the point of some instrument. The dimensions of this vessel are, —height, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches ; depth, 3 inches ; diameter (mouth), $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches ; diameter (base), $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Vases of this form appear to be of rather rare occurrence in England. The type is not given amongst the numerous Anglo-Roman *fictilia* figured by Mr. Akerman in his “Archæological Index.”

The form of the dish, or patera, of “Samian” ware, which

served the purpose of a lid, is shown in the accompanying woodcut. In an inverted position, it exactly fits the mouth of the urn, which it covered. This dish presents no peculiar features. It is of the common bright red ware, and is not ornamented. Its dimensions are,—diameter (top), 7 inches (the same as the mouth of the black urn); depth, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch; height, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch; diameter (base), 3 inches. It bears the potter's stamp impressed in the usual manner,—NASS. I.S.F. In the Roman *Ustrinum* at Litlington, near Royston, the cinerary urn was occasionally found covered, in like manner, by a patera, as stated in the account given by the late Mr. Kempe (*Archæologia*, vol. xxvi. p. 371. plate xlv).

In reference to the occurrence of urns with lids amongst Anglo-Roman remains, I may mention that amongst the numerous ancient vessels which, through the kindness of Mr. Neville, I have seen exhumed at Chesterford, I have never seen an example with a lid, properly so called, and made originally for the purpose. An *olla* of black clay, however, similar in form and dimensions to that now described, and having its original cover, was found at Old Ford by Mr. Stock, and is given in the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, vol. iv., p. 393. In the Anglo-Roman vessel which was found at Winchester, as communicated to the Institute in 1849, by the Rev. Wm. Gunner, and of which there is a representation in the "*Archæological Journal*" (vol. vi. p. 184), the lid appears evidently to be a patera, merely used as a cover, because, in an inverted position, it chanced to be precisely of the proper size to cover the larger vessel. In Mr. Neville's museum at Audley End, there are numerous pateræ of exactly the same shape as that exhibited by Mr. Gunner, and which I imagine was used to serve as a lid, exactly as the Samian patera in the present instance. Many instances have occurred at Chesterford of the discovery of one vessel inside another;¹ and one large urn was exhumed which contained three others, each of different ware,—one of them a beautifully ornamented *poculum* of Castor ware; another of red ware; and a third was a jug with a handle, a vessel of very elegant form, and made of white clay. These were found closely packed in the large urn with earth and ashes.

JOHN LANE OLDHAM.

¹ See some remarks on such deposits, *Archæological Journal*, vol. vi. p. 235.