

ART. XLII.—*Romano-Gaulish Statuette found in Carlisle.*
 BY F. HAVERFIELD, M.A., F.S.A.

THE statuette in white clay, which forms the subject of the following note, was found in the latter part of 1898, in lowering the ground at the back of the Crown Inn, Botchergate, Carlisle, and close to the Roman road which runs south from Carlisle to Plumpton Wall and Brougham Castle. With it or near it were found two small earthenware vessels, one, containing burnt bone, is of blue-black ware, 4 ins. in height, and $2\frac{1}{4}$ in diameter at the top, and vase shaped, while the other is of thick, coarse, red ware, also 4 ins. in height, but bottle shaped with a longish, contracted neck. The spot was part of the Roman cemetery which lined the road just mentioned, and which has been well described by Chancellor Ferguson (*Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Arch. Society*, xii, 365). The statuette in its present condition is 6 ins. long. It is in general well preserved, but the feet and pedestal have been broken off. It represents the Roman goddess Venus, undraped, with the right hand raised to hold her hair and the left hung down to grasp her clothing. See Plate herewith.

The class of statuettes to which this figure belongs is well known. It was especially common in Roman Gaul, in some parts of which, for instance, in the Allier Valley, large numbers of such statuettes were manufactured. Venus and the Mother Goddesses are perhaps the two commonest subjects for these statuettes, but other gods and others not gods are often represented, sometimes even dwarfs and deformities. Though the statuettes were made in Gaul, they exhibit few traces of Gaulish art. Their style is rude; their originals seem usually to have belonged

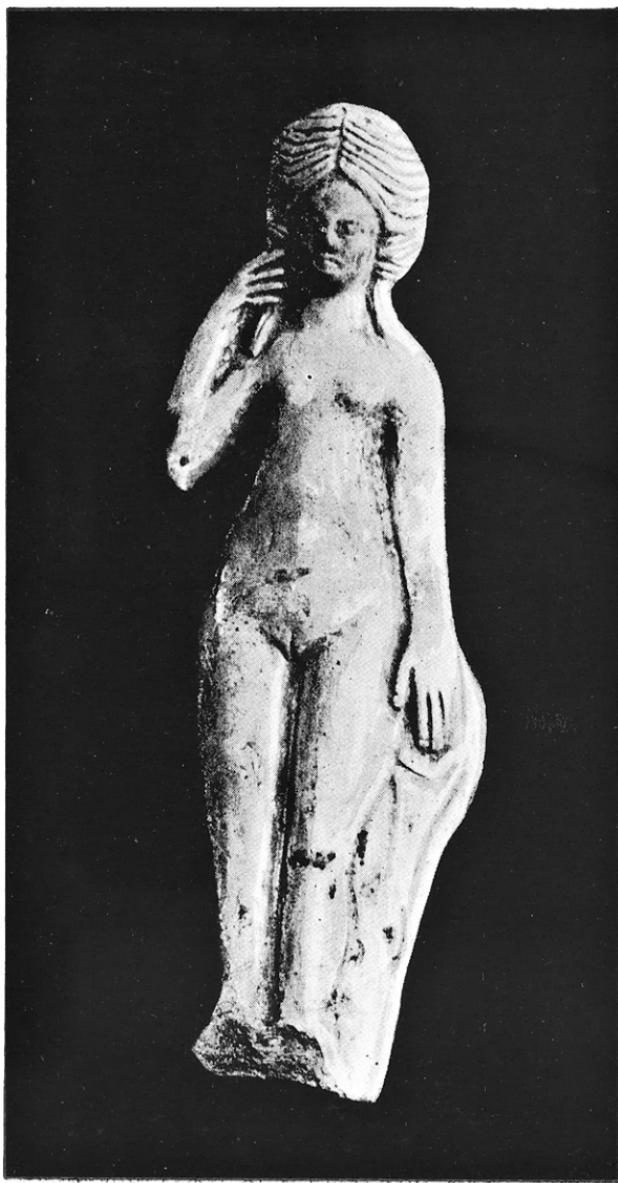


PLATE I. ART. XLII.—TO FACE P. 504.
STATUETTE REPRESENTING VENUS.

belonged to the products of classical art and in particular of that Greco-Egyptian art which largely influenced the Roman Empire. They are far rarer in Britain than in Gaul: they were not imported freely, like the Gaulish "Samian" ware, and they occur mostly in the south and east. Specimens have been found, for instance, at Richborough (*Rutupiae*), Canterbury (*Durovernum*), London, Chesterford, Colchester (*Camulodunum*). They are, however, not unknown further north, as for instance at York (*Eburacum*). I am not aware whether specimens have ever been found before in Carlisle, but I should not be surprised to learn that the statuette before me was the first instance. Its occurrence in or near graves may be an accident. I may refer those interested in these *fictilia* to the following sources. I need not say they do not pretend to form a complete list.

GENERAL ACCOUNTS, C. R. Smith, *Collectanea antiqua*, vi, pp. 48-75; Blanchet *étude sur les figurines en terre cuite* (Paris, 1890); S. Reinach *Antiquités Nationales, Bronzes figurés de la Gaule Romaine*, p. 14.

BRITISH INSTANCES: Richborough: C. R. Smith, *Richborough Reculver and Lymne*, p. 71. Canterbury: *Collectanea antiqua*, vi, p. 57; John Brent, *Canterbury in the olden time*, p. 41 and my *Romano-British Inscriptions*, iii, No. 119; London, C. R. Smith, *Roman London*, p. 109; Chesterford: Neville, *Sepulcra Exposita*, p. 41; *Collectanea antiqua*, vi, 57; Colchester, *Collectanea antiqua*, vi, 228-239; York: Raine, *Handbook to the York Museum* (ed. 8), p. 117.

By the kindness of Mr. C. J. Ferguson, F.S.A., upon whose property they were discovered, the statuettes and the two vases have been placed in the Museum in Tullie House, Carlisle.



MARKINGS ON BOTTOM OF GLASS VESSEL OF ROMAN DATE
FOUND IN CARLISLE.