

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Cambridge Antiquarian Society,

22 OCTOBER, 1894, TO 29 MAY, 1895,

WITH

Communications

MADE TO THE SOCIETY.

No. XXXVII.

BEING No. 1 OF THE NINTH VOLUME.

(THIRD VOLUME OF THE NEW SERIES.)



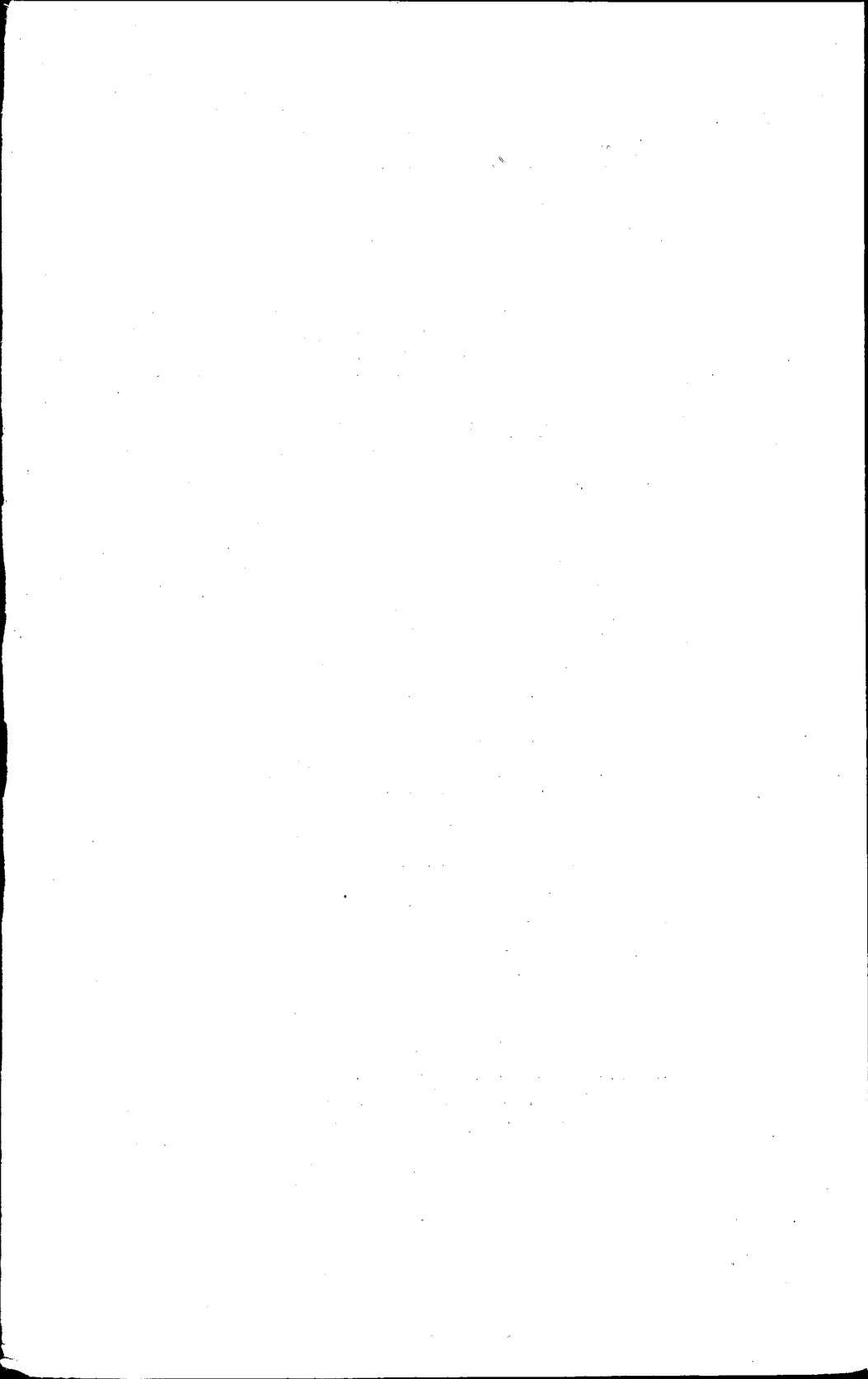
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maker. It is found in Norfolk associated with the Norwich assay mark and with the year letter for 1567—8, and also in the county of Huntingdon where the examples are dated 1571. The maker probably thought it important to send the pieces intended for use in his own neighbourhood to be assayed though he was negligent to submit work which was to be sent to a distance. The fact that all the examples in each district are of the same date is probably due either to fashion or to pressure having been put on the clergy to conform to the Archbishop's orders in different dioceses or archdeaconries at various times.

MONDAY, *November 26th*, 1894.

W. M. FAWCETT, M.A., F.S.A., President, in the Chair.

The Election was announced of H. H. Prince Frederick Duleep Singh, Hockwold Hall, Brandon.

Professor HUGHES exhibited and described a collection of pottery from a new locality near Great Chesterford, which proved the extension of the Roman rubbish pits for a quarter of a mile further to the north than the large gravel pit near the Camp, from which most of the remains hitherto recorded had been procured. He had once seen three large amphoras, which were said to have been found on the hill to the north-east of Chesterford, but he had no information as to the circumstances of that find, nor as to any other objects found associated with them. The discovery to which he now drew attention was made somewhat by accident. He had drawn attention to the hole from which the objects were procured as an example of an artificial excavation filled with made earth, as distinguished from some natural pipes in the same gravel pit, and challenged his companions to put his assertion to the test. A short search disclosed the remains of domestic animals and pottery. The specimens were of such interest, both intrinsically and on account of their locality, that he had asked the owners, Messrs Wale, Joyce, Tod, and Berry, to allow him to exhibit them to the Society, and record the discovery.

Among the objects found was a portion of a vessel in soft red paste, with a strong black lustre glaze, on which was moulded a female figure kneeling. The drawing was so bad, as compared with that on the Samian ware, that he felt inclined to suggest that this must have been the production of an unskilled native artist imitating better work. There were at least six drinking cups with pinched sides, some with more, some with less lustre, and some with ornament in relief.

There was also a red ware vessel in shape like a flower-pot saucer on a stand, and adapted, as were several of those previously found at Great Chesterford, to receive a similar-shaped vessel which formed its lid, as nowadays the covers of *entrée* dishes are sometimes intended for independent use.

There were also some good pieces of Samian ware. One basin had the potter's mark, but this was, unfortunately, illegible, owing to the imperfection of the stamp.

Another piece of Samian was a fragment of a very fine mortarium in which a portion of the roughened interior surface was preserved, while a lion's head, perforated through the mouth, formed the spout. There was also a portion of the rim of one of the ordinary mortaria in rough yellow ware, and two shallow pans in shape like flower pot saucers. The fragments of black earthen ware belonged to common forms.

He remarked that in this case there was a larger proportion of better class highly ornamented ware than was generally found in the pits along the west side of the earthworks, and he thought that, whatever the place may originally have been, and whenever those earthworks were first thrown up, all the remains found about Great Chesterford pointed to the existence of a permanent town of Roman date, rather than to a temporary military station, though there might have been, of course, first of all a camp thrown up by the advancing legionaries. There was curiously little trace of native work at Chesterford, although it is probable that the inhabitants were chiefly Romanized British. A few British coins had been found there but they occurred sporadically all over that part of the country and there was, as far as he knew, no reason for believing that any of the

other remains found there were contemporary. The coins were in the soil perhaps, as were fossils and stone implements. Or they may have been brought in by the inhabitants as any coin would be nowadays. He had not as yet found evidence of the occupation of the area by any pre-Roman people. He believed that Roman *camp*s, properly so-called, were rare, but that Roman towns, villages, and villas were common, and that these were sometimes surrounded by a bank and moat, as were the granges of later times. The Romans adopted the rectangular form for their towns; as they did by rule for their camps, where the natural features or pre-existing works did not make some other arrangement more convenient. So also in the case of the moated granges of later times, the square form was most common, but was modified wherever the bend of a watercourse or facility of digging suggested another outline.

In reply to a question by the President, he said that he did not attach much importance to the name *Chester*, especially when combined with a word derived from another language as in *Chesterford*. He thought the *Castra* of the Romans may have given rise to the *Ceaster* of the Saxons, but that the name was not confined to places where there had been a Roman camp. On a matter of this kind, however, he would refer to Professor Skeat, whom he was glad to see present.

Professor Skeat said: The Anglo Saxon *Ceaster* is merely an adaptation of the Latin *Castrum*. But it is misleading to suppose that it always meant *camp*. Bosworth's Dictionary correctly gives "*Ceaster*, a city, fort, castle, town." An easy example is in Matt. v. 14, where the A.S. version has *Ceaster*, and the modern English has 'a city.' The diminutive *castellum* even means 'village' in the Latin version in the Durham MS; the A.S. version has *Castel* in the same passage, viz. Matt. xxi. 2.

Mr R. A. S. MACALISTER, B.A., made the following communication.

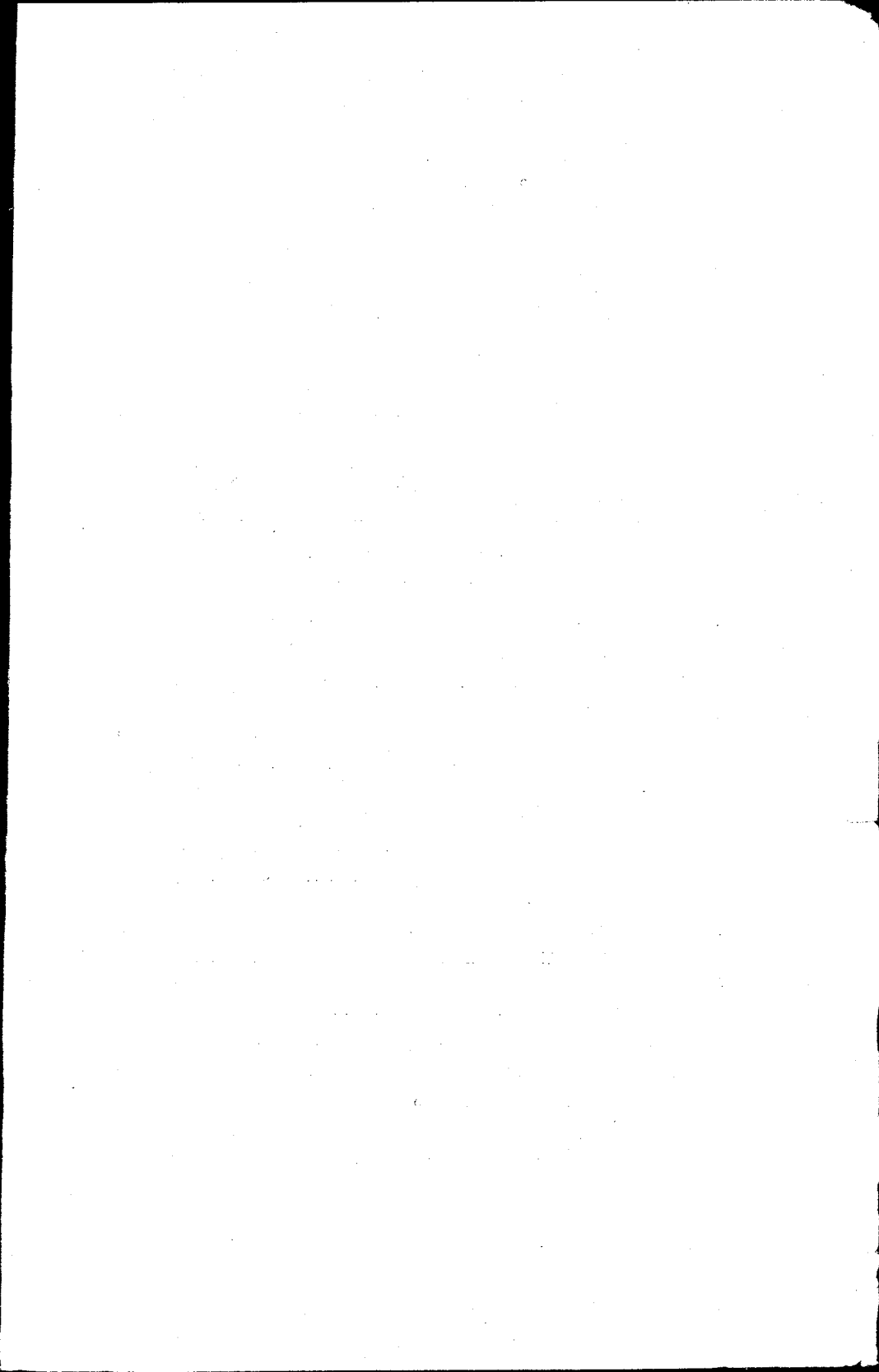
ON SOME ANTIQUITIES DISCOVERED NEAR BANDY- LEG WALK.

The T-shaped road now known as Lady Margaret Road cuts through what was formerly an unbroken meadow, but is

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