



On a Roman Urn from Wroreter in the
Grosvenor Museum, and other Pottery of
the 1st Century A.D.

BY PROF. R. C. BOSANQUET, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read January 17th, 1911)



MAKING the particular Urn as his text, the Lecturer described with considerable skill the evolution of the various patterns of Roman Pottery, both as to form and ornamentation, illustrations being given by lantern slides of specimens discovered at Caersws in Montgomeryshire, where excavations of a Roman Fort are being made under the direction of the Liverpool Committee for Research in Wales.

The lecture was not written, and was not fully reported. It was illustrated with drawings of different types of Samian Ware, indicating the different periods when they were designed and made. It was hoped that the Professor would have been able to give an outline of his address, if not a more complete epitome of it. As he has been prevented from doing this, we must be content with this brief and imperfect description of it.

At the conclusion of the lecture, Mr. T. Arthur Acton (whose excavations at the Roman Settlement at Holt have produced such rich results) spoke, and pointed out the important part which pottery plays in the fixing of dates for the historical student, being in this respect more reliable than coins. He also threw out the suggestion that an illustrated catalogue of the Samian Ware in the Museum, similar to Prof. Haverfield's catalogue of the Roman and inscribed stones (which is about to be reprinted), would be most valuable and interesting. Such a project had the distinct approval of Prof. Haverfield, who said that in Miss Taylor we had a qualified expert to undertake such a work.

Prof. Bosanquet, in returning thanks, warmly supported the suggestion, and thought that such a book also might contain references to some valuable private collections. He also said that Chester must contain, buried far beneath the surface, an inexhaustible mine of such objects.

The Archdeacon of Chester, who presided, said that the question had been mentioned at the Council meeting that evening, and would receive early and fuller attention.

