

# Notes on Ancient British and Romano-British Remains,

DISCOVERED IN THE TYNING AND KILMERSDON ROAD  
QUARRIES AT RADSTOCK.

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**D**URING the Autumn and Winter of 1897-8, the writer's attention was called to a remarkable series of remains which had been found by the workmen at the Tynning quarry, near the South-Eastern boundary of the parish of Radstock, and early in the present year it was his good fortune to make a farther discovery in a new quarry then being opened out in the Kilmersdon road, about a mile to the South-West of Tynning, the remains being of a still more varied and interesting character.

Without making any pretension to special knowledge on the subject with which the paper deals, he would desire to bring under the notice of the members of this society, and to place on record in its proceedings, the facts connected with a discovery which may throw some light on the early history of the races which formerly inhabited the country around Bath.

## I. TYNING QUARRY.

The scene of the first discovery was about half-a-mile to the East of Radstock Station, and in order to explain its geological position, the attention of the members is directed

to a section of strata running North and South through Tynning Pit, which may be considered a typical section of the strata met with on the surface in this central area of the Somersetshire coal basin.<sup>1</sup> It shews in the upper part of the section the Inferior Oolite which occupies all the higher ground to the East of Radstock.

Below this formation lies a series of Lias shales of considerable thickness, with occasional layers of coarse stone, the shales having been used extensively here and elsewhere in brick making, and next in descending order comes the Lias quarry, from which stone has been quarried for many years for local purposes. It may be briefly said that below the superficial covering, which will presently be referred to in detail, lies about 6 feet in thickness of the Lower Lias, followed by the Rhætic White Lias and Black Marl which form the basement beds in the Tynning quarry. Then follow, in the usual order, the Keuper Marls or New Red Sandstone, and the Coal Measures, but neither of these formations have any bearing on the subject of the present paper.

It was in the ordinary course of quarrying operations in the Tynning quarry during the Autumn of 1897, that the workmen met with the first series of remains to which the attention of the Members will now be invited. It has already been pointed out that immediately above the regular beds of the Lias, there occurs here, as elsewhere in the Radstock district, a superficial deposit of varying thickness, known locally by the workmen as the "ruckle of the Lias," consisting of loose débris, evidently derived from the Lias rocks in the immediate locality, which has been deposited in a brown clayey earth, probably when the land about here was last submerged. It contains irregular fragments of Lias, mostly thin and water worn, which have been deposited in a semi-stratified order, and in which fragments of Belemnites and other Liassic fossils are frequently found.

1. This section is not given.

In this particular quarry the thickness of the deposit is about 4 feet, and, according to their usual practice, the quarrymen were engaged in removing it in order to uncover the solid beds of rock which lay beneath, when they suddenly came upon a total change in the deposit which attracted their attention. Instead of the ordinary Lias débris intermixed with brown clay or earth, they discovered what had evidently been an ancient excavation of a very unusual character, the infilling consisting of ordinary dark surface soil, intermixed with a variety of ancient remains which form the subject of the present paper.

The enlarged section of this part of the quarry will explain the position of this excavation, which was rudely circular in form, its dimensions being about 4 feet in depth by 4 feet in diameter. Its sides were not walled round in any way, but there was no difficulty in distinguishing it from the adjoining strata in which it had been excavated. It will be observed that it had only been carried down to the bottom of the Liassic débris, the bottom of the hole resting on the solid beds of the Lias. It is greatly to be regretted that the quarrymen did not cease operations as soon as they met with these remains, and that the writer's attention was not called to them at once, but they probably did not recognise the importance of their discovery until some of the more striking objects were met with, so that some of the contents were seriously damaged and others probably lost. Sufficient, however, was preserved to show that the excavation and subsequent infilling were of a very ancient character, the contents of which the writer will now endeavour to describe.

*Ancient Quern.*—Prominent amongst the contents of the pit which has been described is the Quern now exhibited, which was found associated with the principal finds within a few inches of the bottom of the pit. (*See Plate A, Figs. 1 and 2.*) It will be seen that only the upper half of the Quern has been found, diligent search having failed to discover the

PLATE A.—

REMAINS FROM  
TYNING QUARRY,  
RADSTOCK.

*Underside.*



1

QUERN :  
UPPER STONE.

*Upperside.*



2

SPINDLE WHORL.



3

TRITURATING STONE  
AND  
RUBBER.



4

other half; but its place has been supplied by an approximate model in wood, based on examples which are to be seen in the museum at Glastonbury, where nearly twenty Querns, or parts of Querns, were found in the ancient British village discovered by Mr. Arthur Bulleid, to whom, and to his father, the writer is indebted for much useful information on the subject. In the present instance the portion of the Quern found is a good example of its kind, comparing favourably with the specimens in Bath and Glastonbury, from which it differs in several respects to which attention will now be drawn.

One of these distinctions is in the mode by which the handle was attached to the stone, which in most of the Querns the writer has seen was by means of a hole bored in an oblique direction in the upper half of the stone; but it will be observed that in the example now submitted, the mode of attachment has been by means of a dove-tailed groove, extending from the rim of the stone to what I will venture to call the grain hopper in the centre, the handle fitting in, as shewn in the example which I have had made, which will, at all events, serve to explain the principle. It will be observed that the stone stands higher on the side containing the groove, no doubt to give the handle a better hold. One of the Glastonbury specimens is of this construction, but in that case the dove-tail does not extend through to the grain hopper, stopping short by an inch.

It may here be remarked that this Quern appears to be almost an exact counterpart in all respects of one found during the recent excavations at Silchester, a drawing and description of which appeared in the *Illustrated London News* of 17th June, the only difference being that the Silchester specimen still retained its original wooden handle, notwithstanding the lapse of 2,000 years.

These Querns are supposed to have been fixed in shallow wooden boxes, into which the meal or flour produced dropped on leaving the stones, but what kind of article was thus pro-

duced, or what kind of grain was chiefly treated by such mills, we can only conjecture.

In this, as in the Glastonbury examples, it is difficult to identify the geological formation from which the stone has been obtained, which could only be solved by breaking up the specimen.

In comparing the Quern with a modern Indian example in the Bath museum, the writer could not fail to be impressed with the fact that the human intellect is much the same in all generations, and that the same primitive conditions beget primitive contrivances in half civilized nations now, as in the ages long since passed away.

*The Spindle Whorl.*—The specimen found in the Tynning quarry, and now exhibited, is a good example of another early contrivance which was in common use amongst our ancestors in the ancient British and Romano-British age. (See Plate A, Fig. 3.) It was used in spinning yarn, a short rod being fixed in the hole in the centre and held in one hand, while with the other the early craftsman or craftswoman made the whorl spin round, giving the requisite twist to the yarn. The same remark which I have already made about the hand mills, ancient and modern, would appear to be equally applicable here, for the natives of Zanzibar are said to use a very similar contrivance to this day, the native women, with their younger children strapped on their backs, deftly spinning their yarn from materials which are contained in a pouch on the shoulder.

These spindle whorls seem to have been made from whatever came to hand, and are of all kinds of materials, some being made from the stones of the locality, some from pottery, and others, according to Professor Boyd Dawkins, being of lead, while in one example at Glastonbury the primeval spinner has made use of a small ammonite, thus constituting himself or herself one of the earliest collectors in that department of geology with which we are so familiar in this district.

In the specimen now exhibited the material is White Lias, which outcrops on the slopes of the adjoining ground.

*Black Pottery.*—It is greatly to be regretted that this part of the find came into the writer's hands in a fragmentary condition. From the statements of the quarrymen the pottery was broken when discovered, and it probably received further damage during its removal from the pit, so that only three of the pieces found will join together; but the specimens now submitted are sufficient to show the nature of the pottery, which is of a coarse description, indicating a very early date. It was probably hand made, and the clay from which it was formed has evidently been mixed with shells which Professor Boyd Dawkins pronounces to be recent, and amongst which he recognises the cockle.

What the shape or use of this particular article of pottery may have been there is not sufficient to show, but it is possible that if it had been examined before it was disturbed, it might have been found to contain some evidence of burial by cremation. Those who have had the advantage of comparing them will doubtless observe that these fragments are very similar in their character to much that has been found in the ancient British village near Glastonbury.

*Flint.*—No weapon of flint or other material was discovered in the course of the excavation, but one small fragment of flint was found, which looks like a splinter which might have been knocked off in making an implement.

*Burnt Pottery Earth, Stones and Charcoal.*—All through the infilling there occurred fragments of pottery earth or clay burnt red, rocks of various kinds bearing marks of fire, some of which do not belong to the locality in which they are found, and interspersed throughout the mass were fragments of charcoal, specimens of all these being submitted for examination.

*Iron Nail.*—The only metal found in the pit was a fragment of iron, thickly coated with rust, which may have been a nail; but it is just possible it may have occurred near the surface,

and that it may not be of the same antiquity as the rest, although there would be nothing inconsistent in its being found amongst such surroundings.

*Bones and Teeth.*—The bones, which are not very numerous altogether, were found in a more or less fragmentary state, and were still further damaged by the finders, but in the opinion of Professor Boyd Dawkins, who has kindly examined them, some of them at least are the bones of Red Deer, and the teeth he has pronounced to be those of the Sheep or the Goat. Mr. Arthur Bulleid has also detected on some of them marks of having been gnawed by other animals.

*Snail Shells.*—Interspersed throughout the infilling were innumerable snail shells, mostly of one species, of which a few specimens are now submitted in an excellent state of preservation, considering how fragile they are, their pure white colour shewing no marks of fire. Their presence throughout the infilling is all the more striking by contrast with their total absence from the adjoining strata, and their good preservation and white colour would go to prove, either that the burnt earth and rocks must have been exposed to fire before they were thrown into the pit, or that the snails must afterwards have found their way down amongst the loose materials forming the deposit.

It at first occurred to the writer whether they might have been the shells of snails which had been eaten by the early inhabitants who formed the pit, just as they are occasionally found within the precincts of ancient encampments, but he has since been informed that they are not edible snails, so that this idea must be put aside. It may be mentioned, on the authority of Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt, that similar shells have been found amongst the interments in the grave mounds of Derbyshire.

*Nos. 2 and 3 Pits.*—Shortly after the discovery of the first refuse pit, the contents of which have just been described, the writer was much gratified to learn that the quarrymen had met with two other refuse pits of a similar character and in the same quarry.

One of these (called No. 2) was met with about 20 feet to the North of the one referred to in the Paper, and was in the form of an elbow, the total length excavated being 12 feet, by 4 feet in width and 4 feet in depth. The other, which occurred about 13 feet to the North-East of the No. 2 pit, was more like the one first discovered, being rudely circular in form, and its dimensions being 4 feet in diameter, by 3 feet 6 inches in depth. The infilling of both consisted of much the same material as has already been described, being surface mould mixed with fragments of charcoal and burnt earth and stones, together with various articles of ancient British age.

These additional finds included, amongst other things, three jaws of animals with the teeth attached, five loose teeth, one boar's incisor, and a large number of bones more or less fragmentary, some of them being of larger size than those first met with, and many of them having been rudely split longitudinally probably to obtain the marrow, but they have not been examined by an expert and it cannot yet be stated to what animals they belonged.

The following specimens were of such special interest as to call for individual notice.

*Pottery.*—About forty additional fragments of Pottery were found, embracing three different varieties of a coarse description, some being black and others red, and some of the specimens having a projecting moulding, which may have been the upper edge or rim of an ancient British vessel.

*Triturating, or Rubbing Stone.*—This very interesting specimen found in the No. 2 pit, measures 9 inches by 8 inches by 6 inches in thickness, the material being millstone grit, which must have been obtained from the flank of the Mendips, near Vobster, as that is the nearest point where it is found *in situ*. (See Plate A, Fig. 4.) In a different part of the same pit the rubber belonging to this stone was also found, being an oval pebble resembling those found in the Chesil Beach, about three inches in length, and worn perfectly smooth, as it would

naturally be, considering the purpose for which it was used. A slab of Lias was also found bearing marks of rubbing, but not fashioned after the manner of the triturating stone, and one or two smaller pebbles which may have been used either as rubbers or sling stones.

*Tooth.*—One of the teeth, which has been pronounced to be a dog's canine tooth, measures  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, and the fang end presents an appearance of having been polished, but whether used as an ornament or an implement can only be surmised.

These interesting discoveries have not yet been fully explored, but they go to confirm the view expressed by Mr. Bulleid, of Glastonbury, that the pit first met with formed part of an ancient British village or settlement, and that more extended excavations would doubtless lead to fresh discoveries.

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Such being a summary of the principal contents of these pits, it may now be considered by whom and in what age they were probably formed, and what purpose they were intended to serve.

In considering these questions the writer would offer no opinion of his own, but would rather express the views of Professor Boyd Dawkins and Mr. Arthur Bulleid whose opinions he has already quoted, and to whom he would take this opportunity of expressing his great obligation for much useful help in connection with the present paper.

In the opinion of the former the whole group belongs to the Prehistoric Iron age, and may probably have belonged to a mining (or other) camp in connection with the Glastonbury lake village. He remarks that coarse pottery of the description here met with occurs in Neolithic and Prehistoric Iron finds, and not in Roman accumulations, and that the Quern is in his opinion also of Prehistoric Iron age.

Mr. Arthur Bulleid agrees with Professor Boyd Dawkins that the bones and teeth were those of sheep and deer. He says he has little doubt that the pit discovered is one of the refuse holes so frequently found in or about Romano-British settlements, that these pits range from four to ten feet deep, and when filled up were often made second use of for graves. He believes there must have been a habitation or a village not far distant, and that this interesting find may be only the beginning of more important discoveries.

The adjoining land having formerly been under cultivation, there was nothing on the surface to indicate the presence of these pits, and there are no surface indications to aid in the search for others if such exist ; but, it may be mentioned, that a large number of similar pits were found by General Pitt Rivers in his extensive excavations in Rushmore Park, as set forth in his valuable books on excavations in Cranborne Chase, for a perusal of which the writer is indebted to the Rev. H. H. Winwood.

In considering the probable age and history of these ancient remains from Tynning quarry, it may be useful to refer to other antiquities which exist in the surrounding district, in order to see whether they may possibly throw light upon each other.

For the benefit of those who may not be acquainted with the locality, it may be explained that the parish of Radstock is bounded on the North-West for nearly two miles of its length by the great Roman Road leading from Cirencester through Bath to Ilchester. Near the North-Eastern end of the parish, and adjoining the Fosse Road, is a Barrow of large dimensions, believed to be of Roman age, and said to have been opened by Skinner, of Camerton, who found in the adjoining field traces of a Roman town, shewn on the earlier ordnance maps, which he sought to identify with Camulodunum or Colchester. The refuse pits which have now been described are situated at a distance of 1,200 yards as the crow flies, from this Roman road and Barrow, but as nothing of Roman age has been found at

Tyning there appears to be nothing to connect it with these relics of antiquity.

In Wellow Parish, however,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles distant, there exists a large cellular grave mound of Celtic age, and it will be remembered that not far distant are the remains of the ancient Wansdyke. The relics found at Tyning, therefore, meagre as they are, may have been contemporary with these ancient remains as well as with the Glastonbury lake village, and they may form a link in the early history of this part of Somersetshire.

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## II. KILMERSDON ROAD QUARRY.

It having become necessary to open a new quarry on the Radstock Estate, an excavation was commenced during the Autumn of last year in the upper corner of what is now known as the Jubilee field, near the southern boundary of the parish, and adjoining the road leading to Kilmersdon. The parish of Radstock is intersected by six valleys which radiate from the centre of the town, and the field in question, which seems at one time to have been part of the Huish Common, forms a promontory at the junction of the Charlton and Haydon valleys, the new quarry being 1,320 yards to the South-West of the Tyning quarry already described.

On the summit of this promontory, overlooking the two valleys and the adjoining country, stands a tumulus of no great size, but unmistakable in its character, affording evidence of an ancient British or Roman settlement in the immediate locality.

It has the appearance of having been opened, possibly by Skinner of Camerton, whom I have already alluded to, who devoted much time and research to the investigation of Roman antiquities in this locality; but, if opened, no record of its contents appears to have been kept.

Skirting the lower side of this field, there are appearances of earthworks, which are deserving of attention. So far

as the writer is aware, they have never been recognised as such, but they have every appearance of having formed part of some ancient fortification. There would seem to have been two lines of earthwork in the lower or North-East corner of the field, diminishing to one bank higher up, and although these earthworks correspond with the line of a cart track, which formerly crossed the Common towards Kilmersdon, before the present road was made, they are evidently not mere road banks, but something of more ancient date.

Another well defined line of earthwork, forming nearly a right angle with the first, lies on the North side of the Jubilee field, and just over the hedge which separates it from the adjoining field.

The accompanying large scale diagram will explain the locality in question, on which the quarry is marked A, the tumulus B, and the supposed fortification C and D respectively, while another diagram, on a smaller scale, shows their relative position to the other objects of antiquity already mentioned.<sup>1</sup> The distance, as the crow flies, from this tumulus to the much larger one at Woodborough being 1,936 yards, and from the Roman Road, forming the Northern boundary of Radstock, 1,166 yards.

The geological structure of this new quarry is exactly similar to that of Tynning, the solid beds of Lias being overlaid by a corresponding deposit of surface soil and Liassic débris, which are here about 6 feet in thickness. The earliest finds in this second discovery consisted chiefly of pottery and bones, which were met with in the surface soil which is here of unusual thickness; but in proceeding with the excavation, the quarrymen came upon a large refuse pit, rudely circular in form, measuring 6 feet in diameter at the top and 5 feet at the bottom by 6 feet in depth, being thus considerably larger than those previously met with in the Tynning quarry.

1. The diagrams were exhibited at the meeting when this paper was read, but are not reproduced here.

The infilling, in this instance, was much the same, consisting of black earth or mould, mixed with charcoal, burnt earth, and stones foreign to the locality, or altered by fire, the deposit being easily distinguished from the surrounding Liassic débris, and containing a great abundance of ancient remains. These included numerous bones of mammals, birds and fishes, a few fragments of what were probably flint implements, various iron and bronze articles, few in number, but the latter very perfect of their kind, and a great quantity of pottery of different patterns and descriptions. Time will not suffice to describe these at any length, but the writer would now direct attention to a few of those most worthy of notice.

*Flints.*—There has been a notable absence of flint implements, both here and in the Tynning quarry, but the presence of flint at all at a point so far distant from the chalk formation is worthy of note, and some, if not all, of the fragments met with will probably be recognised as of human manufacture.

*Bronze Implements.*—Only three implements have yet been met with, and of these the most interesting is a pair of tweezers, which is quite perfect, showing little or no corrosion, after being buried, presumably, for upwards of 2,000 years. (See Plate B, Fig. 1.) It measures  $2\frac{3}{8}$  inches in length, by nearly  $\frac{3}{8}$  inches in breadth at the broadest end, and shows a distinct attempt at ornamentation, having a grooved line along each margin, with two groups of small circular dots on each side.

Next in importance is the half of a fibula, about 2 inches in length, which is almost a duplicate of one recently found at Silchester, a drawing of which appeared in the *Illustrated London News* of 17th June last, to which I have already called attention. (See Plate B, Fig. 4).

The other articles are supposed to have been a pin and an ear-pick, but this is rather a matter of conjecture. (See Plate B, Figs. 2 and 3.)

BRONZE IMPLEMENTS.



*Tweezers.*

1



*Pin.*

2



*Ear-pick.*

3



*Fibula.*

4

POTTERY.



*Fragment of Samian, with  
figure of a dog.*

5

*Iron Implements.*—About nine specimens<sup>1</sup> of iron have been met with, most of them having the appearance of nails or parts of nails, but the purposes for which some of the smaller articles may have been used, it is really impossible to say.

*Iron Ore.*—In connection with these iron implements, it may be mentioned that here as at the Tynning quarry, nodules of iron ore have been found, which present a meteoric appearance, but may be only ordinary hematite, and what purpose they served in the present instance, whether for the manufacture of iron, or in coloring some of the pottery, it is impossible to say.

*Glass.*—Two small pieces of glass<sup>2</sup> have been met with, one of which presents an appearance of antiquity, but even the clear specimen was found at a depth of four or five feet below the surface.

*Pottery.*—This has been found in great abundance, partly in the surface soil, and especially in the refuse pit, but unfortunately most of it is in a very fragmentary condition, the Romano-British domestics, like their modern representatives, having apparently been much addicted to smashing such necessary articles of domestic use. A general examination of these fragments will show that they contain examples of a great many distinct varieties of pottery, as well as a large number of vessels of every size and form.

*Samian Ware.*—Conspicuous amongst them is the *Samian Ware*, with its glossy deep red coloring, resembling red sealing wax, which stands out from all the rest, and the writer is indebted to Mrs. McMurtrie, for having joined together with infinite patience, several complete, or almost complete vessels, the component parts of which were distributed in a heterogeneous manner throughout the covering of soil and in the refuse pit. Owing to an incrustation adhering to the edges of the broken parts, they have not gone very well together, but they

1 and 2. Many more iron implements and pieces of glass were subsequently found.

show very clearly the shape and dimensions of these vessels, which were evidently for domestic use. (See Plate C, Figs. 1 and 2). Although graceful in shape, they show no attempt at ornamentation; but it will be observed that the maker has rudely scratched his initials on the bottom of one of them, the letters being V I R I L.

Amongst the fragments of other Samian vessels, which have not yet been pieced together, there are three examples of artistic ornamentation: one showing the figure of a hound, probably part of a hunting scene; but the quarrymen have disfigured it by scratching figures upon it, which is to be regretted. (See Plate B, Fig. 5).

*Romano-British Pottery.*—In addition to the Samian Ware, of which 60 fragments have been found, the writer has obtained from the Kilmersdon Road quarry about 650 fragments of *Romano-British Pottery* of various kinds, but no complete vessel of any description has yet been found or reconstructed. It has been possible, however, in some cases, to join together a sufficient number of fragments to give an idea of what the vessels were, and a few examples of these and of single pieces of different descriptions are now submitted for the inspection of members. (See Plate C, Figs. 3 to 10).

They include the following, amongst others, viz. :

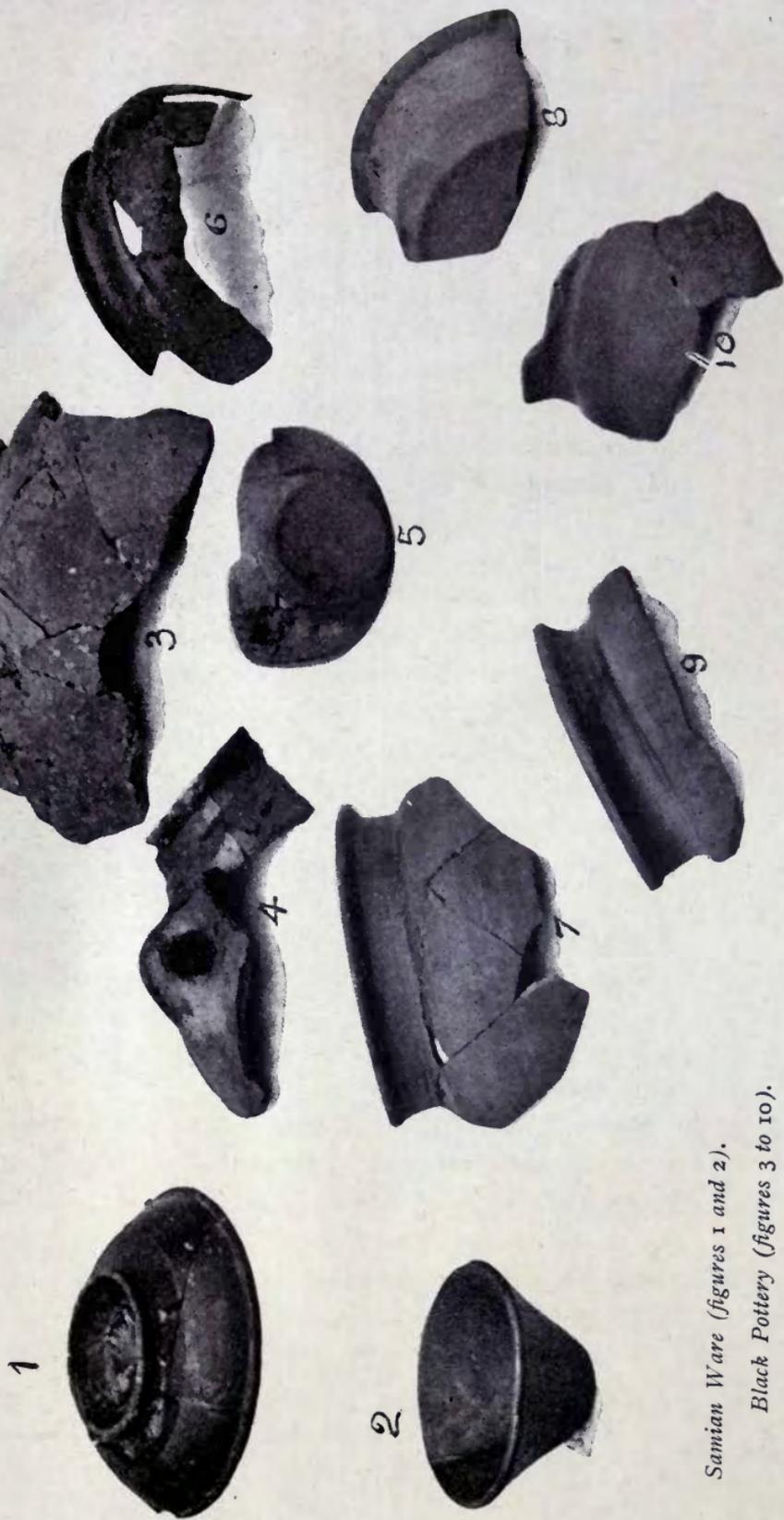
*Coarse Black Pottery*, with small pebbles and broken shells embedded, which probably belonged to a cinerary urn of very large dimensions.

*Smooth Black Pottery*, of finer and thinner manufacture, of a glazed black color, with slight zig-zag markings outside, and brown unglazed finish inside.

*Black Pottery*, unglazed, and of a bluish black, both outside and inside; some examples show an incrustation of what is probably burned food.

*Grey Pottery*, of fine manufacture, slightly glazed outside, and unglazed inside.

*Dark Grey Pottery*, of coarse texture, and unglazed both outside and in.



*Samian Ware (figures 1 and 2).*

*Black Pottery (figures 3 to 10).*

*Bluish Grey Pottery*, thick, and of coarse manufacture.

*Light Buff-colored Pottery*, of very coarse texture and unglazed.

*Pale Red Pottery*, an example of the rim of a large vase of good outline.

*Darker Red Pottery*: examples of the rim and bottom of a vessel.

*British Samian Pottery*, a deep red-coloured fragment of a vessel resembling Samian, and agreeing with General Pitt Rivers's description of an imitation of Samian made in Britain.

*Sundry examples of Rims and Handles* of vessels of various shapes, and different kinds of pottery.

*Sundry examples of Ornamented Pottery*, which in all cases are of a very simple character.

*Pellets.* A few baked pellets, of which a few were met with during the excavation.

Not being an expert, the writer has made no attempt to identify these examples with the pottery of any particular locality, but it may be observed that they agree very closely with many of those described in General Pitt Rivers' books on the Romano-British pottery found in the Cranbourne Chase, and that they are very similar to many of those found by Mr. Arthur Bulleid in the Lake Village at Glastonbury, except as regards the latter, it may be remarked that down to the time when he read his paper before this Society in 1894, no single fragment of Samian ware had been discovered there, while in the Kilmersdon lane quarry it has been fairly abundant.

*Bones and Teeth.* Intermixed with the other remains already described, there have been found nearly 400 bones and teeth of various kinds, many being rather fragmentary, but all of them in a good state of preservation. Amongst them the remains of the following animals have been identified, viz.: the Horse, Cow, Sheep, Pig, Dog, Cat and Hedgehog, as well as a number of bones belonging to birds and fishes.

So far as the examination has gone no trace of human remains has been met with, nor any evidence of animals which are now extinct. There are a few partly burned bones, but they appear to be those of domestic animals, and to afford no evidence of cremation. Some of the bones bear marks of gnawing, possibly by the dogs, whose teeth have been found in the same deposit, and a large number seem to have been split open longitudinally to get out the marrow.

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*Concluding remarks.*—In considering the probable age of the remains discovered in the Kilmersdon Road quarry, it would appear to the writer that they may possibly belong to a somewhat later date than those previously discovered at Tynning quarry, which, as already pointed out, have been considered by Professor Boyd Dawkins to belong to the pre-historic Iron age, and by Mr. Arthur Bulleid to have been contemporary with the remains in the Glastonbury Lake Village.

The total absence of Samian, and the very primitive character of the other pottery found at Tynning, would appear to give those remains an earlier date than the Kilmersdon Road deposit, where Samian and the finer kinds of pottery are plentiful, while the contents generally bear evidence of a more advanced civilisation. It is probable, therefore, that the Kilmersdon remains may have been contemporary with the Romano-British remains found by General Pitt Rivers on Cranbourne Chase, with which they appear to agree very closely, but it is to be remarked, that down to the present time, no coin of any kind has been met with to aid in determining the age of these interesting relics of the past.