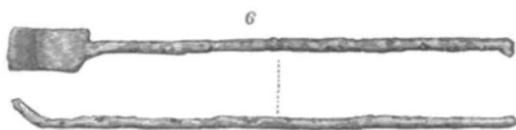


ROMAN REMAINS FROM LUTON, CHATHAM.

IN the early part of 1869, the articles represented in the annexed plate were discovered by labourers, who were digging earth for brickmaking, at Luton, in the Parish of Chatham. I was informed that, some few years before, a very large quantity of brick earth had been dug, from the same field, but I could not learn whether any relics of antiquity were then found. Mr. C. Roach Smith, and I, visited the spot, and observed foundations of buildings, evidently Roman, the greater portion of which had been removed during the previous excavation, but sufficient was left to shew that the buildings had been of large dimensions. We learnt, from some of the workpeople, that they had dug up many more of the "red cups and saucers," of which no care had been taken, and several bushels of bones, which they had sold. We could get no further information, and were unable to form an opinion as to what the buildings had been. The field lies in a hollow, or valley, through which it is not improbable that a branch of the Medway ran, in very remote times.

Fig. 1.—Fragment of fluted glass Basin. The basin had been 5 inches in diameter, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in height; the fracture is of recent date, the edges being quite fresh.

Fig. 2.—Glass Bottle, $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches high, and $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in width on each side; nearly perfect—a small piece of the upper part of the handle only missing.



ROMAN REMAINS FROM LUTON, CHATHAM.

Fig. 3.—Bronze Jug and Basin. Jug 7 inches in height, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter; perfect, except the bottom part, which is much corroded, and the bottom broken off. Basin 13 inches in diameter, and 3 inches in height; in an extraordinary state of preservation, parts of the outside at the bottom almost as bright as when first turned; name stamped in centre of inside—AFRICAN, and I or V.*

Fig. 4.—Iron Lamp, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches high, and 1 inch deep inside—much corroded. Also a brass ring, broken from an iron rod or stem, probably the upright handle.

Fig. 5.—Bronze hasp-front and side, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length; the pin of the hinge is of iron.

Fig. 6.—Two pieces of iron, each 16 inches long. They may perhaps have formed one implement, probably a small spade.

With these there were also found—

An ornamented Samian-ware dish, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch. in height; perfect; no name or mark.

An ornamented Samian-ware cup, $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, and 2 inches in height; perfect; no name or mark.

A plain plate of Samian-ware, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch high. It is perfect, but bears no maker's name nor other mark.

A plain Samian-ware cup, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch high; perfect; no name or mark.

HUMPHRY WICKHAM.

Strood, March 25, 1873.

* AFRICANI. M. appears in the list of Potters' Marks, from the Allier given in the 'Collectanea Antiqua,' vol. vi., p. 71.