

In studying British urns we soon perceive two varieties of this *bascaudal* style, if we may so term it. In the coarser ware there is one broad encircling band, in the upper part, which is made so as to be prominent over the lower part of the vessel—perhaps for the facility of handling. The ornamental strokes on these urns are very rudely arranged, often vertical in the band, and in herring-bone fashion elsewhere; the upper edge is flattened so as to bear a wreath of short oblique lines. The substance is coarsely tempered. The other variety is exemplified in smaller and handsomer vessels of thinner substance, better tempered, more reddened by fire, with more numerous belts and lines of strokes, and a greater freedom and undulation of contour. These do not appear to have had the benefit of the wheel, but it would seem as if some better models had been before the workman. Were they of later date? Were they Romano-British? They are least rare in the district near Malton, being found both on the Wolds and the Pickering hills*,—a district where good brick-earth is to be had in many places. These vessels have been found in the tumuli empty. Were they frumentaria?

A rare shape of this pottery is a low, smooth spheroidal cup, like a saltcellar, made very thick of a coarse clay.

Neither jet nor amber-ornaments are common in our northern tumuli, except they be of Anglo-Saxon date, a circumstance which agrees with the ornament assigned to Hengist in the ‘Gododin’—the huge amber beads round the neck of the ‘freckled chief’ †.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE PEOPLE.

Cities, properly so called, are first mentioned in Britain by Tacitus; and he notices only three, all in the south of the island, perhaps all founded by the Romans, viz. Camalodunum, Londinium, and Verulamium. Ptolemy recounts no less than

* The tumuli of this vicinity have been successfully explored by Mr. Kendall.

† Davies’s Mythology of the British Druids.