

## Notes on a Romano-British Burial at Bath

BY JAMES F. BLACKETT, M.D., D.P.H.

The skeleton was contained in a stone coffin found at Bath on November 16th, 1931, at a spot close to what is now the end of the garden of a house opposite the middle of the curved north-eastern boundary of Henrietta Park—that is, in the area between the Park and Daniel Street. The discovery was made by workmen preparing the ground for building. Mr. Gerald Grey, of the Somerset Archæological Society, who was called in by Mr. Drake, the builder, states that the coffin was 3 feet below the surface, lying due east and west, with the head to the west. The outside length was 6 feet. Inside measurements: 5 feet 6 inches long; width, 15 inches at the head and 9 inches at the foot; depth, 10 inches. The cover consisted of three stone slabs 6 inches thick. The sides were 2½ inches thick and finely tooled. At the foot of the skeleton were some fragments of red Roman pottery. Scattered about near the coffin were other human bones with one or two bones of horses or oxen. Like several other stone coffins found in the Bathwick district this one doubtless belongs to the Roman period.

When I visited the site again in August, 1932, I was told by a workman that the coffin had been removed and still awaited final disposal. He also said that another coffin had been found a few yards from the one described, but it had been covered in again without being opened or disturbed.

REFERENCES.—*Bath Chronicle and Herald*, 1931, November 16th and 24th; *Proc. Bath and District Branch Som. Arch. Soc.*, 1931, p. 374.