

3. POTTERY FROM WESTERWICK, SHETLAND.

On a recent visit to Westerwick, Sandsting, Shetland, I discovered that the "burnt mound" there (R.C.A.M., *Inventory*, No. 1456) had been levelled to provide material for a new road. Four large stones were showing at ground-level, set in a straight line. The roadman explained that this was the side of a large drain which they had uncovered, the other sides having been removed. Two pieces of pottery, part of a rough implement of the kind known as a stone club, and two broken hammer-stones were found among the mound's material outside the construction. The roadman was unable to estimate the height above the ground-level at which the pottery was found.

The sherds are now in the National Museum, and the Keeper reports that they are from a well-fired hand-made vessel of sandy texture. The exterior had been a pale brownish buff, but is blackened at the rim by a sooty encrustation and is part of the grey interior. The vessel was medium sized, with an estimated rim diameter of $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and probably rather conical. The sides are relatively thick. The rim has been formed by pinching in the uppermost part of the wall and then everting, forming a carination an inch below the lip (fig. 1). There does not seem to be a close parallel to the vessel in the Museum, though it bears a general resemblance to broch pottery.



Fig. 1. (3)

PETER MOAR.