

and then there was discovered a little chamber right in the centre of the barrow, walled in with flat stones; and in the midst of this little chamber, a large urn of baked earthenware. Before anything was moved, Uncle John brought the boys to look, and showed them how the floor of the little chamber had been strewn with fine white sand upon which the urn was set. Beside it were three smaller vessels all empty, and lying beside them were two flint arrow-heads, a small stone axe, and a hammer made out of the thick end of a red-deer's antler bored with a hole for a handle. Uncle John lifted the urn carefully out and they all looked inside it. It was full of dust and ashes, and some bits of charred bone, and some chips and splinters of flint that had also been burned. These relics were all gathered carefully together to be taken to the squire's house, and the workmen began to put away their tools.

As Uncle John and the boys walked home, Dick asked: "Did those people burn everyone who died?"

"Perhaps not everyone, but they did it very often."

"Why did they?"

"That is a hard question for me to answer—