

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Cambridge Antiquarian Society,

4 JULY, 1901, TO 7 AUGUST, 1902,

WITH

Communications

MADE TO THE SOCIETY.

No. XLIII.

BEING No. 3 OF THE TENTH VOLUME.

(FOURTH VOLUME OF THE NEW SERIES.)



Cambridge:

DEIGHTON, BELL & CO.; MACMILLAN & BOWES.

LONDON: G. BELL AND SONS.

1903

Price 5s.

on, or produced in slip in high relief, while others were ornamented with rings or triangular groups of dots, also in high relief. Seeing that there was so much pottery of the better kind, the almost entire absence of Samian is very marked and indicates that Roman art still survived, but that the importation of distinctively Roman objects had ceased.

A little further still in the direction of the reservoir at a depth of about 2 feet from the surface, that is from the same horizon as that from which most of the pottery was obtained, a plain bronze fibula¹ was found. It was unfortunately broken by the pick in getting it out and had previously lost a portion of the narrower end. The fragment was about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long with a square expansion at one end. This was $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in length and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in breadth with a curved lunette front. The back was very thick and strongly bent. The lost part must have added from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches to the length. On the under side there are two loops into which the pin must have passed, but there is no trace remaining of any spring. This fiddle-shaped brooch is not like any Roman or Saxon specimen which has so far occurred in this district, and, like the pottery, suggests that it belongs to an age when the Romanized British still kept up the general types they had learned from the Romans.

ON SOME EARTHWORKS AT BOXWORTH AND KNAPWELL.

By Professor T. MCKENNY HUGHES.

There is a look of antiquity about the parishes of Lolworth, Boxworth, and Knapwell, but there are few records or traditions to help us in making out their history. There are traces of ancient enclosures and cultivation everywhere and very old trees stand about in rows and clumps. The names are Scan-

¹ This interesting specimen will, it is hoped, be figured when the final report is made to the Society—as also the pottery, much of which is new to our district, and the ovens, which are different from anything of which I can find record.

dinavian. But who knows when Scandinavian immigrations began?

The churches as they stand are not very old. Knapwell church looks like a new one built out of old material on a new site, for there is no high churchyard round it. Boxworth Church is Decorated and Perpendicular and has a 14th century coffin-lid recently built into the wall. It is interesting to Cambridge men for the tomb of Sanderson, the blind Lucasian Professor of Mathematics (1711-1739).

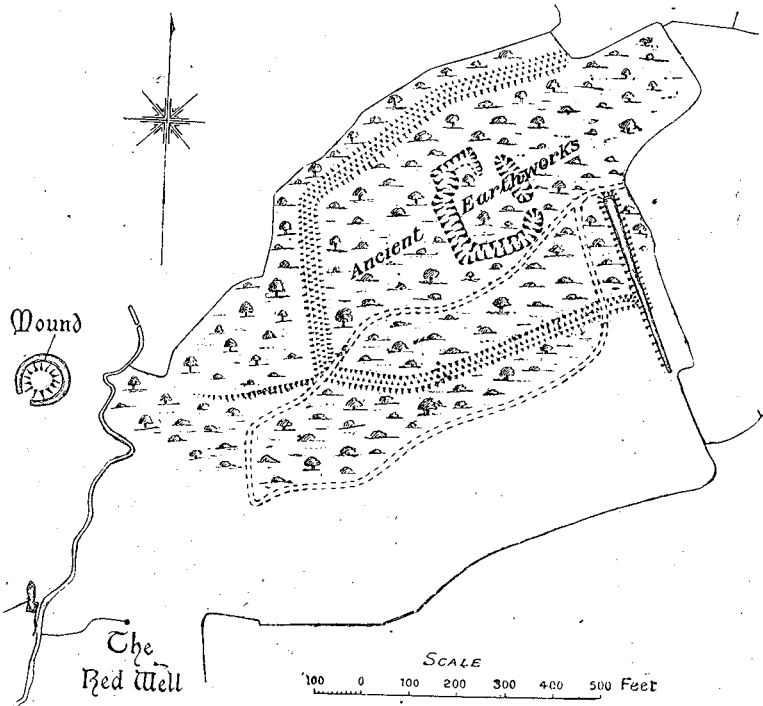
Knapwell probably owes its position to the stream which runs along the bottom of the valley to the west of it, and perhaps to the spring which issues from the Elsworth Rock at the bottom of the bank opposite the church. This well must have given its name to Knapwell, near which it is, though it is now in Boxworth parish. It is strongly chalybeate, and one would think from the ancient brick-work in it that it was more thought of in old times and was very likely regarded as a holy well. Its name, the Red Well, was obviously given to it from the deep red stain of the iron oxides. Tradition says that this district was densely populated till the Black Death carried off nearly all its inhabitants.

But what I would now call special attention to are some earthworks of great strength and extent in Overhall Grove, between Boxworth and Knapwell. They were pointed out to me by Mr Edmund Thornhill of Boxworth, whose brother owns the property.

The most ancient, I take it, is the moated mound or 'burh' which stands on the Knapwell side of the stream, at such a low level that the moat is easily kept full of water. It is peculiar in this that it does not occupy a strong position on a hill nor command any important stream-crossing. It looks as if it had been thrown up here for concealment, when this district was covered by dense woods, and for security against surprise, for it could have held out for some time against a sudden attack.

On the Boxworth side of the stream a thick wood covers the slope, forming a well-known fox covert and concealing in its depths some strong artificial earths. In the midst of this

wood there is a strong irregularly rectangular platform with a deep fosse round it. This work is about 70 yards across. Outside this there is a strong vallum and fosse, also roughly rectangular except that it is drawn out into a point in the



direction of the well, while from this corner a covering bank runs down more directly towards the stream immediately opposite the moated mound. The north-east side also where part of the fosse is still full of water extends beyond the corner in a straight line to the south-east.

This looks like the site of a fortified mediæval residence of later date than the moated mound—but so completely has it passed out of the memory of man that I was unable to learn

anything more about it, and, buried in its deep woods, it escaped the notice even of the Ordnance Survey. When however I called the attention of the officer in charge of that district to it he had it surveyed at once, and has kindly placed at my disposal a tracing of the works which will appear in the next edition of the map.

VILLAGE OF ROMANIZED BRITONS ON THE BANKS OF THE CAM BETWEEN CHESTERTON AND MILTON.

By Professor T. M^CKENNY HUGHES.

In September of last year Mr Bell, of Trinity Hall, kindly informed me of the discovery of a large quantity of pottery and bones at the east corner of the Sewage farm on an area which was being excavated with a view to some further extension of these works. Through his good offices I heard from the Town Clerk, Mr J. E. L. Whitehead, that the Sewage Disposal Committee were willing to hand over the various antiquarian objects found to me in order that I might see to their examination and safe-keeping. I am glad to have the opportunity of publicly thanking these gentlemen for their courtesy in the matter.

The discovery proved to be of great interest. It is in fact the unearthing of another Roman settlement along the river terraces north of Cambridge. Unfortunately I did not receive the information in time to see the objects excavated and note their exact relation to one another, but an examination of the spot and of the surrounding area and careful enquiry from the workmen enabled me to make out pretty clearly their manner of occurrence and the character of the remains.

There were a good many human remains and most of these came from graves of irregular occurrence over the area. They seem to have been those of well-built people of large stature and good dolichocephalic skulls.

The pottery and the remains of domestic animals were found chiefly in pits such as are so common in and around every

CONTENTS

OF PROCEEDINGS, No. XLIII.

VOL. X. (NEW SERIES, VOL. IV.) No. 3.

	PAGE
A supposed Romano-British settlement at Odsey. By Mr H. G. FORDHAM	169
The Potter's field at Horningsea. Part I. By Professor HUGHES . . .	174
A Roman Potter's field near Jesus College. By Professor HUGHES . . .	194
A box of weights and scales for testing moidores. By Professor HUGHES	197
A Kaffir pillow with a handle. By Professor HUGHES	199
Nottingham Stone-ware and Sgraffiato ware. By Dr J. W. L. GLAISHER.	199
Delft Pharmaceutical ware. By Mr W. A. HARDING	202
Visit to Coptic Monasteries of Egypt. By Mrs LEWIS	210
The Sepulchral Brass of St Henry of Finland. By Dr M. R. JAMES . . .	215
A Legend of St Stephen. By Dr M. R. JAMES	222 and 264
St Urith of Chittlehampton. By Dr M. R. JAMES	230
The War-ditches near Cherryhinton. By Professor HUGHES	234
Earthworks at Boxworth and Knapwell. By Professor HUGHES	237
Village of Romanized-Britons between Chesterton and Milton. By Pro- fessor HUGHES	240
Modifications of design on an Indian Cloth. By Professor HUGHES . . .	241
The Explorations of Dr M. A. STEIN in Chinese Turkestan. By Mr E. J. RAPSON	242
The Evolution of the Cart. By Dr A. C. HADDON	244
The Remains of the Dog near Cambridge. By Professor HUGHES	245
On ancient Horse-shoes. By Professor HUGHES	249
A Turf-parer from Westmoreland. By Professor HUGHES	258
A pre-Christian cross from North Ireland. By Dr A. C. HADDON	259
Stages and rejects in Stone implements, at Piny Branch, Washington. By Dr A. C. HADDON	260
Recent excavations in the Market-Place, Cambridge. By Prof. HUGHES . .	261
Annual General Meeting	263
Annual Report of the Council for 1901—1902	265
County History Committee	269
New Members elected	271
Summary of Accounts, 1901	272
Excursions	273
Additions to the Library	286
List of Officers and Council, 1902—1903	292