

Transactions
OF THE
Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire
Archæological Society

(FOUNDED A.D. 1900)



VOLUME VI. PART IV.

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PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY BY
MASON & DORMAN LTD., THE MINSTER PRESS

1941

PRICE (NON-MEMBERS) TEN SHILLINGS

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NOTES.

FINDS AT ST. NEOTS.

During 1939-40, premises on the north side of St. Neots Market Square, next to the Cross Keys Hotel, were pulled down to make way for a Boots' Chemest's Shop. They were of timber frame and wattle and daub construction and had, in the 18th century, been the White Lion Inn.

In the course of operations a number of foundation trenches were dug and a deep basement excavated in the whole area to a distance of 60 feet back from the building line.

Here were found seven burials, which included both sexes, all orientated East and West. Numerous mediæval rubbish and cess pits and trenches had also been dug all over the site. Some obviously older than the burials contained, unfortunately, no datable objects. One pit had disturbed a grave close beside it. It contained much coarse unglazed pottery and also two silver coins—kindly identified at the Fitzwilliam Museum as probably of Edward III. and Richard II.

This site must originally have been just outside the wall of the Priory.

The pottery and other finds, including three skulls, are in the Museum of Archæology and Ethnology at Cambridge.

SOUTHOE TOLLBAR.

Last winter for the first time the little huntsman on the east side of the Great North Road at Southoe Tollbar has gone without his pink coat;—it may be interesting to tell his history. *The Cambridge Chronicle* for the 3rd July, 1812, contained the following notice:—"Died on Tuesday last, at

"Little Paxton, aged 72, Francis Loxley. He was 30
"years keeper of the Southoe turnpike gate, by which
"employment and his penurious way of living he is said
"to have died worth near £2,000. Whilst keeper of the
"gate he formed a peacock upon a haw-bush which stood
"near the gate, as large as life, and which he kept cut
"with great nicety. Near the same spot he also formed
"out of a haw-bush a horse with a rider upon it as natural
"as life, and which he kept cut in great order also, and in
"the hunting season he would clothe the rider in a scarlet
"dress, which thousands of travellers can testify."

C.F.T.