

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

**Cambridge Antiquarian Society,**

4 MAY—1 JUNE 1908.

WITH

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MADE TO THE SOCIETY

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PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
**Cambridge Antiquarian Society ;**  
WITH  
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4 May—1 June, 1908.

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Monday, 4 May, 1908.

Dr VENN, President, in the Chair.

The Reverend F. G. WALKER, M.A., made the following communications which were illustrated by lantern slides.

(1) SKELETONS RECENTLY FOUND AT THE "WAR  
DITCHES," CHERRYHINTON.

Before reading to the Cambridge Antiquarian Society a short account of the finding of the graves and skeletons at Cheryhinton, I must thank Prof. Hughes, as so often it is my happy task to do, for affording me such a delightful afternoon's excavating, for intensely interesting it was in spite of a temperature 8 degrees below freezing point. A quarryman had brought word to Professor Hughes that in the course of his work he had come upon some bones. Not being able, through press of business, to spare time to look into the matter himself, Prof. Hughes asked me to do what I could. So on Feb. 7,

1907, armed with the few tools experience has taught me to be the most useful when excavating, I went to the spot.

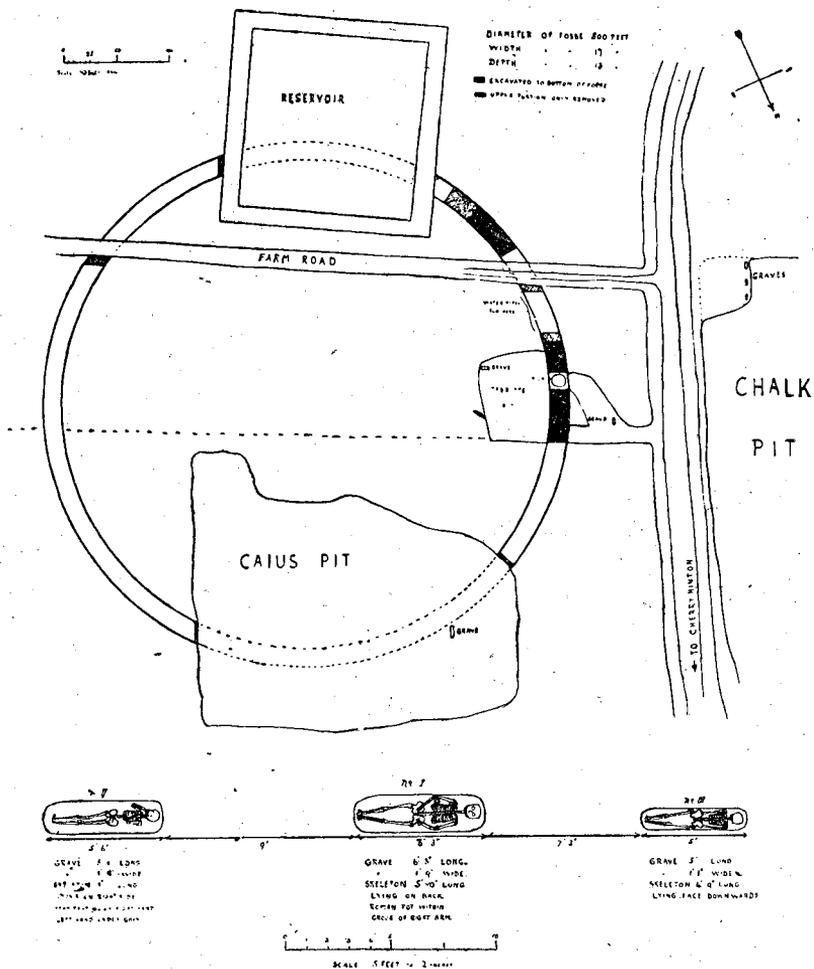


Fig. 1. "War Ditches," Cherryhinton.

Most of the members of the Society will know the place where these graves were, for they no longer exist, the quarrying operations having destroyed them.

Arriving at the Cross Roads at Cherryhinton Village, follow the road leading up to the Cambridge Waterworks Reservoir, and there on the very edge, and at the furthest end, of the big quarry that lies on the right of the road, the site will be reached.

The graves were exactly 65 yards, in a straight line N.N.W. from the point where the Fosse of the "War Ditches" crosses the Farm Road which runs on the north-eastern side of the Reservoir.

The quarry man, after clearing off the callow, as the earth and chalk refuse near the surface is called, had dug a trench in the chalk in the ordinary course of his work, and at the side of the trench had hit the skeleton with his pick. Fortunately not much damage was done, since he was on the watch for any traces of graves or antiquities, having been warned by Prof. Hughes that such might occur in the neighbourhood, and so the moment he saw a piece of bone he stopped digging in that place.

The grave lay in a N.N.E. and S.S.W. direction—the head to the N.N.E.—and was dug in the hard rubble, the bottom formed by the solid chalk. The length of it was 6 ft. 3 in., the uniform breadth 1 ft. 9 in. while the depth, from the surface grass to the bottom of the grave, was 3 ft.; its ends were rounded.

On the skeleton being entirely uncovered, it proved to be that of a male, aged about 40 to 50 years, and measured as it lay 5 ft. 4 in. in length; the small bones of the feet had decayed more than any other part.

The body had been placed on its back, the head resting on the right cheek, facing W.N.W. The arms lay at length along the body, the finger-bones of each hand were found lying in correct order upon the two hip-bones. The right arm was sufficiently bent to admit of an earthenware pot resting between the elbow and the ribs.

The earthenware pot (Pl. XVI.), measuring 5 in. in height and 4 in. in diameter across the rim, which contained nothing but small sized chalk rubble, is of Roman type, identical in shape, size, colour, and material with one or two that I dug up in a purely

Roman burial place at Godmanchester, and which are on loan in the Archaeological Museum.

Fragments of a pot were also found—this pot had evidently been broken on purpose for this burial—several pieces, comprising the greater part of the base of it, were resting against the top of the skull, and two other fragments, a few inches in length, had been placed on edge, down the right side of the face.

The two remaining pieces of the base and half a dozen other fragments of the same pot had probably been held by the hands above the middle of the body—these were found lying between the two hip bones.

No trace of iron or other metal was discernible. A little darkish earth—not burnt earth—was found just below the chin of this skeleton. In the trench made by the workman, six inches from the grave, a few bones of sheep, ox, and pig were discovered with several small fragments of pottery.

After completing the disinterment, I pointed out to the quarry men the probable position of other graves, begging them to work very carefully when breaking away the chalk at those spots.

Three months afterwards, on May 9th, word was brought to me that the men had touched another skeleton, on one of the two places indicated.

*Grave II. on plan.*

The details of this are as follows:—

The depth, from surface grass to the bottom of the grave, 2' 9".

The length 5' 6", width 1' 8".

The direction of the grave exactly as in No. I. namely:—Head pointing to N.N.E., feet to S.S.W.

The skeleton, that of a male of about 40 years of age, is just 5 feet in length.

It was lying on its right side facing W.N.W.

The upper arms lay along the ribs, both bent at the elbows, so that the face rested on the right hand, the left hand being directly under the chin.

This grave was 9 feet in a direct line S.S.W. of the skeleton



Pot found with skeleton, 'War Ditches,' Cherryhinton.

found on Feb. 7th. There was no trace of pottery, coins, burnt earth, or coffin. Some of the long bones—femur, ulna, tibia—were cracked across as they lay in the grave, due probably to pressure from above.

In less than another month, June 1st, the quarry man came to tell me he had found a third skeleton on the exact spot where I had told him to look for one.

*Grave No. III.*

This was 3 ft. below grass level, measuring to the bottom of the grave.

The length of this grave was 5 feet.

The width 13 inches.

Head pointing N.N.E., feet S.S.W.

The skeleton measuring 4 ft. 9 in. was exceedingly brittle, so much so, that though one could tell it was that of a female, of less than 20 years old, it was impossible to put the skull together again.

This skeleton lay face down, in a slanting position—the head being 8 inches above the level of the feet.

There was nothing whatever in the grave, except the skeleton.

The distance of this grave from grave No. I. was 7 ft. 3 in. in a direct N.N.E. line, so that a straight line, 33 ft. in length drawn from N.N.E. to S.S.W. would pass lengthways through each grave. Both II. and III. like No. I. had rounded ends.

Judging from slight indications on the surface, there is reason to hope that more graves will be discovered when fresh ground is broken in the course of quarrying.

Professor Macalister and Dr Duckworth, to both of whom I owe much for their kindly patience and time spent in this and other matters, pronounce these three skeletons to be of the pre-Roman Anglian type like many that were discovered in, and near, the "War Ditches" during 1903, while excavations were being conducted by Professor Hughes. To the latter's paper published in the Proceedings of the Cambridge Anti-quarian Society, No. XLIV. 1902—1903, pp. 478—481, I must refer you for the conclusions to be drawn from these interments.

The chief interest lies in the fact of a perfect Roman

earthenware pot being found in a grave of this Teutonic race; I would also draw attention to the fragments of pottery placed round the head.

This was the case with the Roman skeleton, which I am about to describe, found in the Tumulus at Lord's Bridge.

I found also a small bead of white glass in the chalk rubble a few yards from these graves.

It is realised, even now, by only comparatively few people, that the invasion of our eastern shores by the tribes living round the North and Baltic seas began long before the time of the Roman occupation in 44 A.D.

This invasion was put an end to, it seems, during the height of the Roman power in Britain, and recommenced about 250 A.D., when the Western part of the Roman Empire was disturbed, and authority weakened, during the period of the Gallic Tyrants. Carausius, appointed Count of the Saxon Shore in 286 A.D., the first to hold that title (Eutropius, ix. 21), was himself of Frisian race.

Constant raids were made subsequently upon what we know as East Anglia and Kent, especially about the years 365 and 374 A.D., and after the withdrawal of the Roman forces (410—420 A.D.) the Anglo-Saxons, as we commonly call them, though really consisting of every race then inhabiting the coast from Modern Holland to the Gulf of Riga (Shore's *Origin of the Anglo-Saxon race*) came in with a rush and gradually conquered the Romanised British.

In these skeletons we see remains of this pre-Roman invasion.

#### *Measurements of Skeletons.*

Description	Grave No. I.	Grave No. II.
	(with Roman Pot) Male, ovoid.	Male, elliptical.
<i>Cranial portion—</i>		
Maximum length	188 mm.	194 mm.
Maximum breadth	148	146
Basi-bregmatic height	116	115
Horizontal circumference	535	539

Description	Grave No. I.	Grave No. II.
	(with Roman Pot) Male, ovoid.	Male, elliptical.
<i>Facial portion—</i>		
Basi-nasal length	97 mm.	111 mm.
Basi-alveolar length	97	110
Nasi-alveolar length	66	71
Bi-zygomatic breadth	128	145
Orbital height	36	43
Orbital width	R. 40 L. 37	R. 40 L. 39
Nasal height	46	55
Nasal width	26	23
Jugo-nasal arc	110	114
Jugo-nasal width	103	105
<i>Indices</i>		
Cephalic	787	753
Altitudinal	617	593
Alveolar	1000	991
Orbital	875	930
Nasal	565	418
Naso-malar	1068	-1086

(2) ON THE CONTENTS OF A TUMULUS EXCAVATED  
AT LORD'S BRIDGE, NEAR CAMBRIDGE.

During August, 1907, it was my fortunate lot, by means of a grant from the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, to excavate the Tumulus which is situated within a stone's throw of Lord's Bridge Railway Station, about 5 miles S.W. of Cambridge.

The mound was half hidden by a thick hedge running over its longer axis, and was hardly observable except by one searching closely for such an object.

This hedge is marked on the 1836 edition of the 1-inch scale Ordnance map, and so has had plenty of time in which to

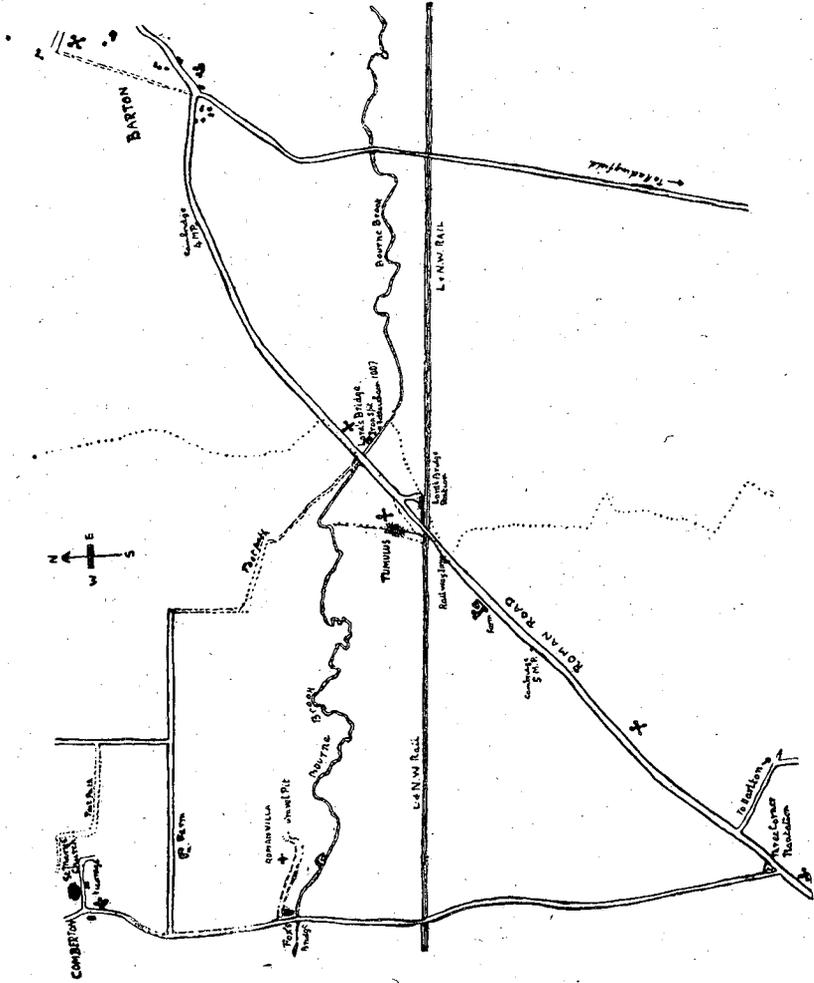


Fig. 1. Map of country round Lord's Bridge. Roman finds marked +.

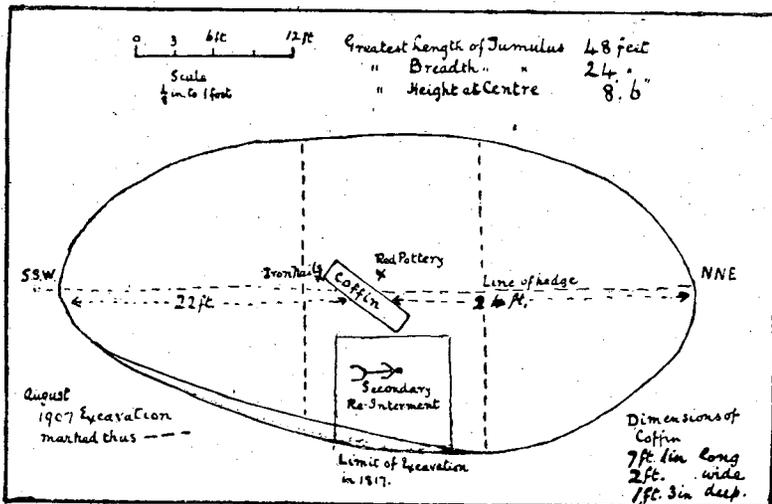
grow and obscure the antiquarian treasure beneath. Before commencing operations the tumulus was carefully measured, with the following results:—

Length 48 feet.

Width 24 feet.

Height 8 feet 6 inches.

Direction along the longer axis S.S.W. and N.N.E.



Roman Tumulus at Lord's Bridge Harlton Near Cambridge

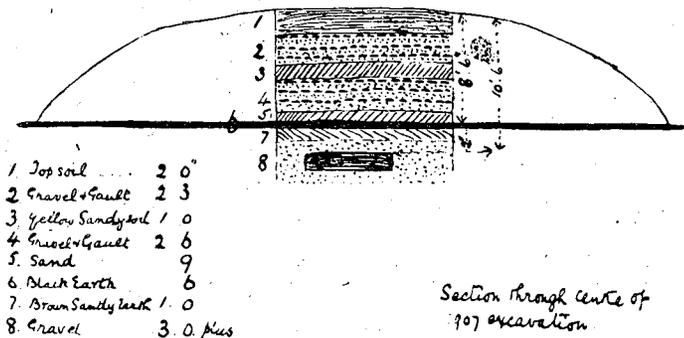


Fig. 2.

We commenced digging a wide trench at the centre of the N.W. side, and after removing the turf and the surface soil, found the construction of the mound to be of a peculiar character. Distinct layers of soil appeared thus:—

1	Top soil	2' 0"
2	Gravel and gault	2' 3"
3	Yellow sandy earth	1' 0"
4	Gravel and gault	2' 6"
5	Sand (yellow)	9"
6	Black earth	6" ground level
7	Brown sandy earth	1' 0"
8	Gravel	3' 0" and more

Each kind of soil can be found in the fields and ditches near by.

The layers of gault kept the inside of the tumulus and the coffin perfectly dry.

Some red-coloured fragments of pottery were found near the centre of the tumulus at ground level—these being of Roman type raised my hopes.

We should have come upon the object of my search after the second day's digging but for the tenant's begging me, if possible, not to destroy the hedge over the top of the mound. So having undermined the hedge, as far as we dared for safety's sake, without finding any traces of burial, we began to dig on the other side of the hillock. After a day's work it was easily seen that this side had been disturbed, and we soon came across some human bones, quickly finding the whole skeleton, but no skull; there were also a few bones of a horse near these human ones. All these were reinterred afterwards.

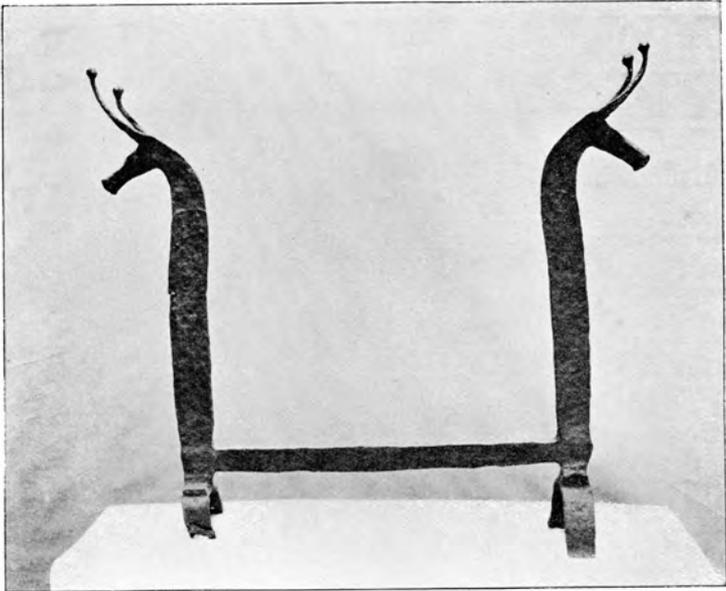
By widening our excavation, before long we could see exactly, as if cut with a knife, the limits of the previous digging.

We worked on, not going below ground level, and knocking a small hole or two through the centre of the bank now left, we were sure nothing of importance had been buried above the original surface of the ground.

I will now make a digression to show how it came about that a skeleton was found without a skull.



Iron shackles found at Lord's Bridge, near Cambridge, 1817.



Iron fire-dogs found at Lord's Bridge, near Cambridge, 1817.

When the work was over and done with, I searched various books and records to see if any mention was made of previous digging on this spot. In *Archaeologia*, Vol. xix., p. 61, the following entry occurs:—

It is the postscript of a letter, dated November 27, 1817, written by the Rev. E. D. Clarke, LL.D., Professor of Mineralogy in the University of Cambridge.

“P.S. In the course of last summer I opened a very considerable tumulus called Hey Hill, standing by the remains of the Old Roman Road westward of Cambridge, beyond the village of Barton towards Wimpole. Some curious remains made of iron had been found near the spot; of which I have also sent a sketch made by the Rev. Mr Pemberton, Minister of Barton. They consisted of a chain with six collars for conducting captives; and a double fulcrum, intended to support a spit for roasting meat, the coals being placed under the spit; illustrating a well-known passage in Virgil, *Aeneid*, v. 103

‘Subjiciunt verubus prunas et viscera torrent.’

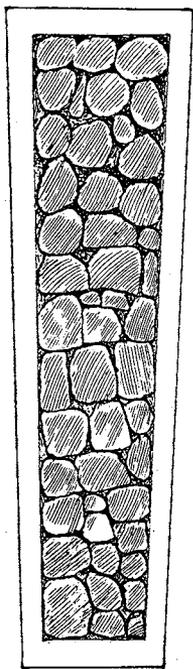
That they were Roman antiquities is therefore very probable; but in opening the tumulus nothing further was discovered likely to decide this point. Upon the floor of the tomb, about 9 feet from the summit, we found the remains of a single human skeleton; the head separated from the body, was lying upon the right ear, north and south; the top of the skull pointing south. The bones of the body were lying east and west. The skull was removed, and it is now in our University Library. [Professor Macalister has since kindly gone with me through the records of all skulls now in the Anatomical Museum, but no trace of this one could be found.]

Since writing the above (so lately as April 15th, 1818) some labourers being employed digging gravel near the same tumulus, discovered at the same distance and on the same side of the Roman Road, fourteen inches below the surface of the soil, a rude stone slab, covering the mouth of an amphora, which was full of water and within it a black terra-cotta vase of elegant form, half filled with human bones; also two other smaller vessels of red terra-cotta with handles. I am at this moment engaged in removing these antiquities to our University Library.”

Unfortunately all these have disappeared in the course of time—no trace of them remains in the Museum, nor of other Roman pottery from Comberton bought by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society in 1849. The iron chain and shackles and the iron support for a spit are now figured. (Plates XVII., XXVIII.)

Mr Sanders Holben of Barton, one of our members, assures me that his father told him that these chains and cooking implements were dug up in the field immediately bordering up the Bourne Brook in Barton parish, in the S.E. division of the Cross made by the intersection of the Bourne Brook and the

Scale 1 in. to 1 foot  
1/2 2/2



Coffin covered on work  
large stones & gault  
buried down in a solid surface

Fig. 3.



Fig. 4. Position of bones in coffin.

Roman Road between Lord's Bridge Station and Barton (see plan). Mr Holben also tells me that he remembers an old road and ford across the Bourne Brook some 100 yards eastwards of its present course. This confirms Mr Clarke's statement when he says these Roman articles were found on

the same side of the road as the tumulus; at present the spot is on the further side.

To return to our Tumulus.

Having proved there was nothing above ground level, I followed my invariable rule, when excavating, of digging 2 or 3 feet beneath what *seems* to be the natural level of the ground, or the cause of the mound, or other object upon which one is working. Mr Clarke in his digging had not gone below the natural surface—the “floor of the tomb” he calls it.

After clearing away another 2 feet of gravel a piece of worked stone was touched which proved to be a large stone coffin, lying S.W. and N.E. (as on plan).

As the gravel was removed on and around it, the appearance of the coffin was thus:—it had no lid, but was filled in with large stones and gault, at a level of about 2 inches from the top of the sides of the coffin, packed tightly together, so that it took some considerable effort to unloosen the solid surface they formed.

At the S.W.—the larger end of the coffin and just touching it—27 Roman boot nails were picked out. The assumption is that one of the men employed in the work of burial was wearing an old boot and left the sole of it behind him.

The coffin measured as follows:—

*Outside.*

Length 7' 1"

Width 2' 0" wider end. 1' 6½" narrow end.

Depth 1' 5½"

*Inside.*

Length 6' 5"

Width 1' 5" wider end. 1' 1" narrow end.

Depth 1' 2" except near the narrow end, where it is 1' 4" deep.

It is made of oolite rock—most probably from Barnack. On removing the large stones which formed a covering to the coffin, the contents were found to be in a rather unusual condition; “orderly disorder” best describes the state of things.

The skeleton was that of a young woman, about 23 years old, and from the calculation made by measuring the *femur*, she was about 5' 2" in height when alive. Two of her hair pins made of bone,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length (fig. 5), were near the skull.

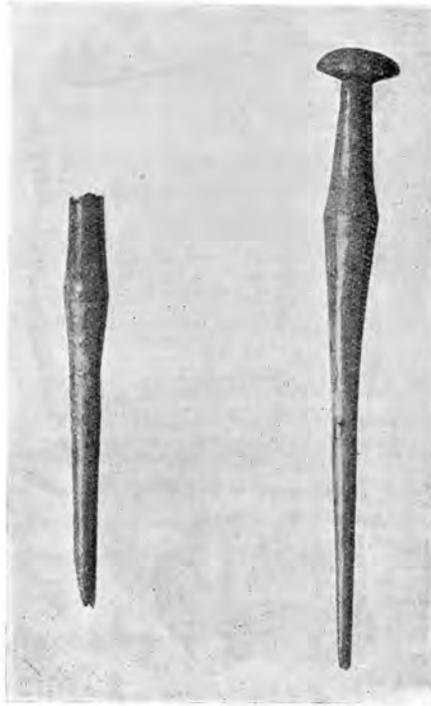


Fig. 5. Bone hair pins.

The larger bones were separated; no bone was touching the bone that would lie next to it had the body been buried in the ordinary position, with the exception of the tibia and fibula of each leg.

The lower jaw was at the extreme end of the coffin, while the skull was near the centre. It is to be noted that this

skull, like the one found by Mr Clarke, was also apart from the body.

*Measurements of Skull.*

Description	Ovoid
<i>Cranial portion—</i>	
Maximum length	181
Maximum breadth	153
Basi-bregmatic height	120
Horizontal circumference	520

*Facial portion.* This was too imperfect for measurement.

*Indices—*

Cephalic	845
Altitudinal	663

About the middle of the coffin, touching the south side, were the bones of a cock and a goose, also a fragment of a tooth of sheep or goat and a developing tooth of a young pig, which Dr Harmer was kind enough to identify for me.

Within the coffin, round the sides of the wider end, were the fragments, some 60 in number, of a large urn.

If the skeleton had been in the usual position, one would have supposed these fragments, as in the case of the Cherryhinton skeleton mentioned in the previous paper, to have been placed there in order to protect the head and face from pressure of earth above.

The thought came to one's mind that some animal might have burrowed into the tumulus, and penetrating the stones and gault forming the lid of the coffin, have dragged the bones about in its horrible feast, but there was no sign of such a thing having taken place, nor was there room for such action.

The bones of the skeleton were surrounded by, and the whole coffin was full of, dark earth capped closely by the, to all appearance, undisturbed covering of stones and gault.

The remaining conclusion, which one hardly likes to draw, is that the young woman was cut in pieces before burial. This form of burial was fairly frequent during the Neolithic and

Bronze Ages<sup>1</sup>, but Professor Ridgeway assures me he has never heard of such a thing in connexion with a Roman burial. There was absolutely no room for an animal to drag the two parts of the skull such a distance from one another. The gault could not have formed the lid accidentally or have been squeezed there by pressure from above, for between that and the nearest layer of gault were 2 feet of gravel, 1 foot of brown sandy earth, 6 inches of black earth, and 9 inches of yellow sand—4 ft. 3 ins. in all. The disorderly arranged skeleton seems then to have been buried purposely as it was found.

Two or three fragments of Roman pottery were picked up just outside the coffin—one, a piece of a so-called engine-turned vase.

There is a curious story still current in my parish of Comberton.

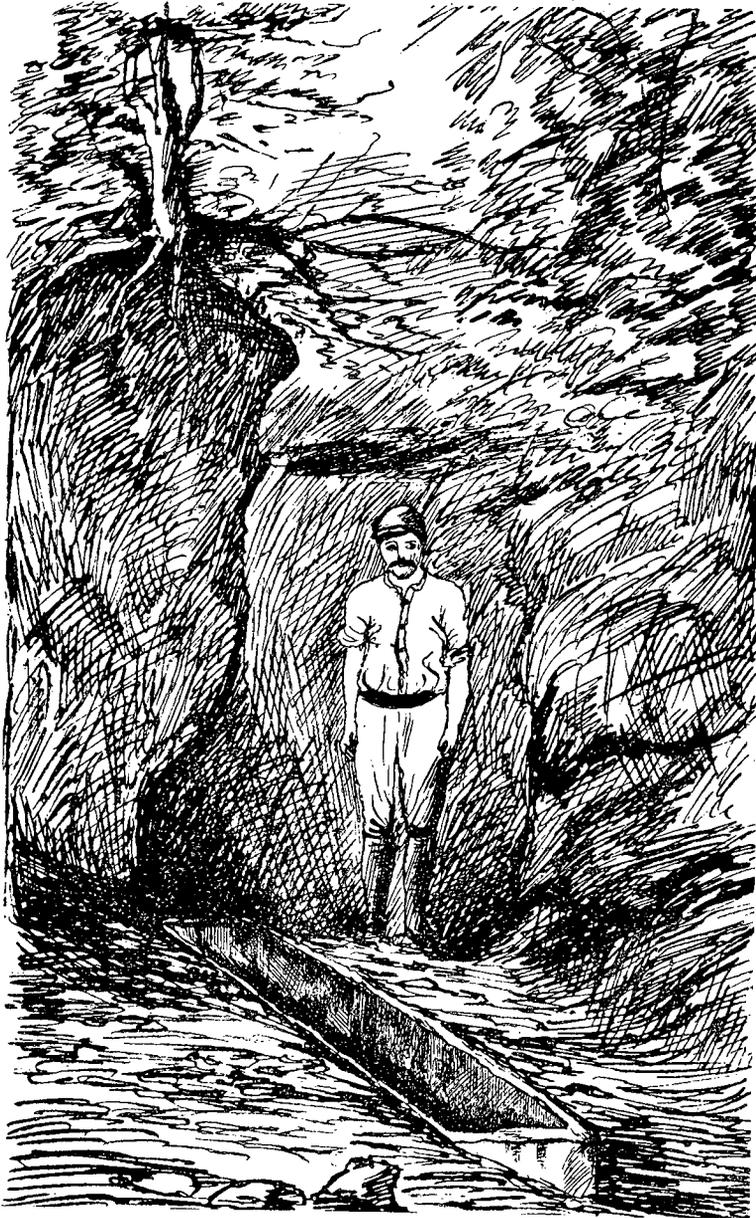
Two women who were in service during the late "sixties" at the Farm House, a quarter of a mile from the tumulus, tell me their mistress often tried to frighten them into good behaviour when they became a little rompish in their play on Hey Hill, by saying "the Roman soldiers will come out and have you."

This was only brought to their minds by the stir caused in the neighbourhood by the discovery of the stone coffin.

No tradition remains in the minds of the people round about of Roman things having been found at or near Hey Hill, nor any memory of Mr Clarke's excavation. It is possible, though one hesitates to state the probability, that the memory of Roman occupation of the site has been handed down locally from Roman times until now.

The whole Bourne Brook Valley, from where the stream flows into the Cam at Grantchester up to the village of Bourne, is full of Roman remains; some few of the spots, where I personally have found Roman articles, are marked with a cross on the plan. In the fields each side of the Roman Road from Lord's Bridge to the top of Orwell Hill, can be found numerous fragments of pottery and bits of bronze, etc.

<sup>1</sup> J. R. Mortimer, *Forty Years' Researches*, pp. xxxii, 15-16, 63, 66, 77; Pitt-Rivers, *Excavations in Cranborne Chase*, iv. 66.



This district needs careful attention, and, I am sure, will repay labour spent upon it. Roman remains are frequently found. Celtic things I have dug up in it, and it contains the only Scandinavian place name in the county, Toft, one mile and a half west of the tumulus that is the subject of this paper.

I may also point out that this tumulus of Roman date is but a half-mile from the site of the Roman villa at Comberton, which was laid bare in 1842.

Monday, 11 May, 1908.

Dr VENN, President, in the Chair.

The following paper, profusely illustrated with lantern slides, was read by F. BLIGH BOND, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.

### ON THE ROOD SCREENS IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

Cambridgeshire, though but a small county, possesses a wealth of ecclesiastical interest. Occupying as it does a border district between the fen-land and the chalk—sharing their geological character, even so it reflects in its architectural remains the varied types of work which characterise the several districts between which it forms the link.

Thus, for example, the spacious and stately churches of the fen-lands are well represented in the northern part of the county, whilst in the south and east are found varieties typical of East Anglia—and in association with these, a yet larger number of churches which reflect the influence of Midland examples. There is thus to be found a striking diversity of plan and interior arrangement, affecting in its turn the more individual features. Hence the remarkable variety observable in form as well as in detail in the screenwork which was once so universal in the parish churches and of which very ample remains still fortunately survive in this county.

In considering the different types of screenwork it is necessary, in order to gain a clear idea of the form and use of the screens, to look well at the nature of the plan of the church in each case, both as originally conceived and as subsequently modified during the mediaeval period—and thus we are led first to seek for those examples of the earliest types of church-building which the county offers us.

In the pre-Norman days, the separation between nave and chancel, or nave and sanctuary, was usually effected by a heavy

stone barrier in the shape of a wall containing generally a single archway of more or less narrow dimensions.

It is believed that these early chancel openings were furnished with veils or curtains, but it may very probably have been the case that lattices of wood or "cancelli" were also fixed within them. That, however, must remain a matter of conjecture since there remains no trace of any wooden screenwork in England of an earlier date than the thirteenth century, and Cambridgeshire furnishes no example of a *chancel* screen of this date.

But of the early mural screen or stone chancel barrier, we have a good instance at Hauxton, where there is a single archway of somewhat narrow dimensions, Norman in date, the balance of wall space on each side being somewhat wide and this wall space is occupied in a manner characteristic of this early type of church—that is to say that against the wall north and south of the chancel opening are found the remains of stone altars, backed by arched recesses, furnishing a shelf and a primitive reredos, the wall at the back of each recess being probably intended for the reception of a religious painting. At Hauxton, on the north side, the arched recess is richly moulded, whilst on the south it is plain, but here there is an interesting survival, for the surface still retains a fine fresco painting, in good preservation, of St Thomas à Becket.

Later instances of this peculiar form of screen wall are not far to seek—and the churches of West Wrating, Horseheath and Weston Colville offer instances of fourteenth or fifteenth century date.

Here, as might be expected, the chancel arches are better developed, and no doubt all at one time contained wooden screens within the limits of the arch, but that of Horseheath alone survives. But the evidences of the former existence of the side altars are present in the piscinae and niche work which, in spite of the ravages of time, change, and iconoclasm, still survive. Weston Colville is a church which has been shockingly treated in most barbarous taste, but at West Wrating the antiquary will find much of the old interest remaining.

The fine church of Barton, of fourteenth century date, is

another of this peculiar type, with tall and narrow chancel arch, and space for side altars in the wide flanking walls.

This church is fortunate in retaining a beautiful traceried wooden screen of the Suffolk or "East Anglian" type, full of exquisite and most refined detail, and still bearing traces of original colour decoration.

The church of Milton exhibits the peculiarity of a large recess on the south side only of the chancel arch: that of Shepreth shows recesses both sides, the northern one being blank, the southern pierced as a hagioscope.

In England until at least as late as the seventh century and probably later, the Act of Consecration had been veiled after the Eastern manner and the full change of rite did not apparently supervene until the twelfth century, for we find that whereas the oldest builders preferred the single narrow arch to the sanctuary, thus obscuring it from view, subsequent generations of churchmen retained this narrow arch in its simplicity for a long while wherever built, though under the Normans a system of building wider arches came into vogue. But shortly before the twelfth century, a greater clearance in the chancel wall was demanded, and this was effected in the older churches by the piercing of hagioscopes on one or more, frequently both sides of the chancel arch, as we see it at Shepreth, and as it undoubtedly occurred at St Benedict's Cambridge, before the existing chancel arch was substituted for the narrow old one.

There was another type of mural screen, or stone chancel barrier, which characterised a certain section of our early churches—and this exhibited a triple arcade in lieu of a single arch in the chancel wall.

The earliest known instance of this feature was at Reculver, Kent, where it took the form of three round arched openings supported by columns of Romano-British type. It dated probably from the seventh century or thereabouts. Others are known to have existed at Brixworth, Rochester, Canterbury, etc. but we lose trace of the pattern in the centuries succeeding, and only now find it re-appearing in or about the twelfth century as a favourite type. The thirteenth century gives us several instances in which a fine architectural character is given to the

triple arcade, the best specimens being those at Wool in Dorset and at Westwell in Kent—the latter a magnificent composition.

Cambridgeshire was not without specimens of stone screen-work of this order, but the earliest, which was at Little Shelford, has now unfortunately been "restored" out of existence.

But the triple arcaded form though as a complete mural barrier it can no longer be seen in the county of Cambridge, still is represented in a somewhat later form by the curious and perhaps unique stone screen of Bottisham church. Here the arcade is seen in a perfect state, but there is no wall above it. (Pl. XIX.)

The three graceful stone arches support a horizontal head of moulded stone, the spandrels being filled with "tympana" of ashlar work, pierced each with a small quatrefoil. The composition is of fifteenth century date.

Not far from the Cambridgeshire border, at Bramford in Suffolk, is another screen of somewhat similar type, but earlier in date, more solid in proportion, and having the two lateral openings filled breast-high with stone ashlar walling, probably for the reception of the two lesser altars customary in so many of our English churches at the east end of the nave. At Gedding in Suffolk is yet another.

At Harlton, in the south of Cambridgeshire, is another stone screen, but of very late date, and of a different order. Instead of an arcade of three simple lights we find here a series of narrow fenestrations, mounted upon a fairly high breast-wall, and furnished with an arched central opening. The screen as it now stands is little more than the wreck, or skeleton, of what it once was, since there is scarcely a doubt that this like other screens of its type, was once a double screen, having an additional screen to the westward, probably of open and of ornamental nature, the space overhead being spanned by the roodloft. For a perfect example of the type the reader is referred to that still standing at Compton Bassett in Wiltshire, and to a sister screen at Le Folgöet in Brittany, where in front of the traceried wall is seen a delicately enriched open arcade, and beneath, on either side, an altar, with the doorway in the centre, and the roodloft running overhead.



Bottisham. Triple arcaded rood screen in stone, and oak parclose to south chapel.



Balsham. Part of west face of rood screen shewing projecting canopy.

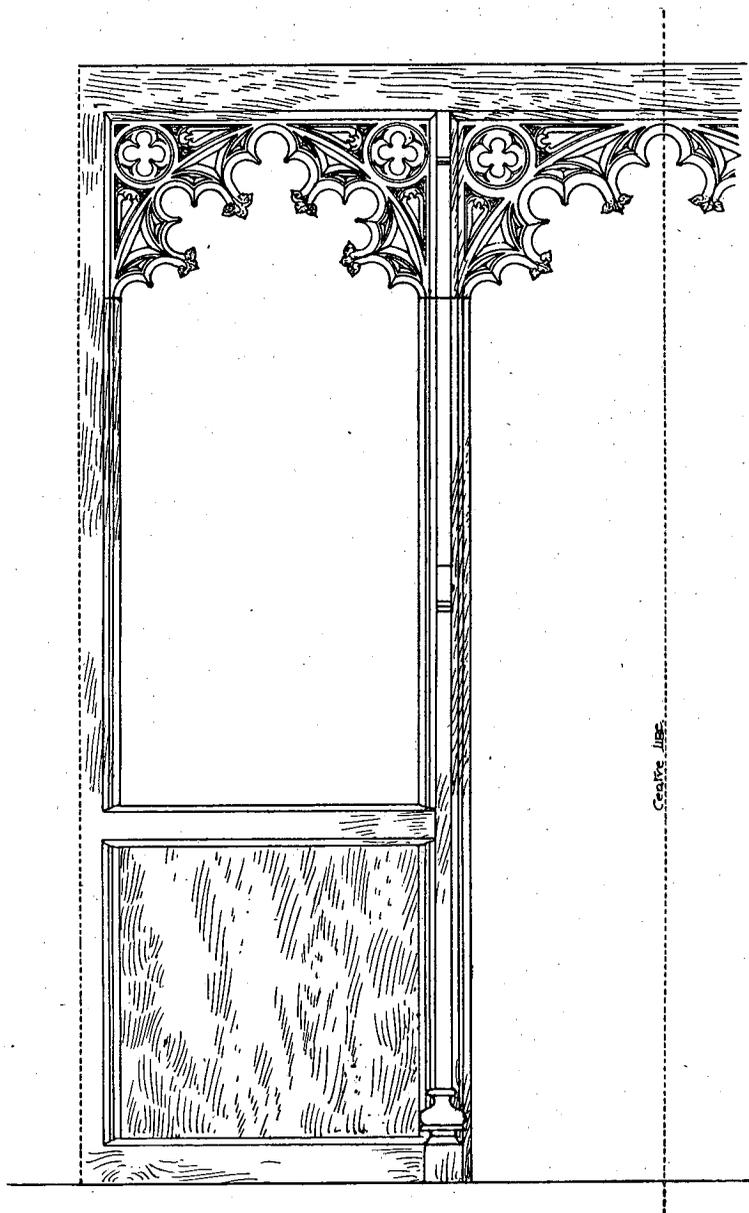


Fig. 1. Tripplow. Elevation of XIV cent. Rood Screen. (Shewing the triple arcade in oak.)

The foregoing instances practically exhaust the list of *stone* chancel screens in the county of Cambridge, but the triple arcade is further exemplified in the beautiful old wooden screen at Triplow, a model of grace and comeliness even in its present forlorn and decayed condition. The date of this work is probably about 1350.

The custom of installing the secondary or nave altars against the western face of the chancel wall or screen became subject to modification as time progressed, and a tendency becomes visible, first to fence them in, as at Ranworth in Norfolk, by wing-screens, or to enclose them completely by screenwork, forming little chantry enclosures.

These are to be found occasionally on the west side of our screens, and I believe that at Guilden Morden we have an instance of this intention. The purport of the Guilden Morden enclosures has been a matter of much conjecture amongst antiquaries, and the presence of the inscription in blackletter on the panels north and south of the interior of the gangway, referring as it does to Confession, has very naturally given colour to the theory that one if not both of the curious little compartments which exist within the area of the eastern and western screens, was for the purpose of a confessional.

Those who adopt this theory have to reconcile it with the generally accepted view that the introduction of the confessional box was a matter of far later date than the fourteenth century, which is the date of the Guilden Morden screen. But from a general survey of screen-forms in England, and a comparison with other examples, the writer certainly inclines to the view that the Guilden Morden screen enclosures are in reality chantries, and once contained small altars.

The next, or later modification of this system of placing the altars had an important effect upon the form of our screenwork. Churches began to be aisled, and the eastern extremities of the aisles north and south were often enclosed by screenwork, thus forming chantry chapels of far more liberal dimensions, whilst the chancel screen was freed from any attachment of altars to its western face, and was thus permitted to display any beauties of carving or colour decoration it might possess to the fullest

extent, so that it became customary to exhibit upon the lower panels of the screen a complete series of saints' figures in colour. These figures, which constitute the great glory of the Norfolk and Suffolk screens, seem to have been represented on several screens in Cambridgeshire, but only traces are left. Guilden Morden possesses one or two panels, which have however been repainted: and two panels from the old Fulbourne screen are preserved in Trinity College, representing Our Lord and St Elizabeth of Hungary.

Of chantry chapels enclosed by screens in the manner above described we may instance Foxton, Bottisham, and Willingham as notable among surviving examples retaining their screenwork.

The church at Foxton has a chantry of ample dimensions (now used as a vestry) formed at the eastward extremity of the north aisle, and enclosed by Early Perpendicular screenwork of simple traceried lights, the woodwork bearing traces of colour. At Bottisham the chantry screens, which are of beautiful late fourteenth century character, exist, though in a mutilated form, in both aisles. Originally they would have enclosed the whole of the eastern bay of the aisles, but are now set back further, by the shortening of their returns. The interesting church of Willingham perhaps provides the most complete series of parclose or chantry screens in the county. On the north side is one of special ecclesiological importance, since it is of exceedingly early date, and from the artistic point of view it is equally noteworthy as the design is graceful and the mouldings most delicately executed. This screenwork encloses the "Ely" chapel. A date in the neighbourhood of 1320 may be assigned for its execution. It retains traces of colour, and a curious "diaper" pattern which will be more particularly described in the later section of this paper dealing with the screens of Cambridgeshire individually.

The south or "Brune" chantry of Willingham church has a very perfect series of parclosets of Perpendicular type—early fifteenth century, containing some remarkable features. Although nothing of the kind now remains in Cambridgeshire it is probable that in some cases the side screens supported

galleries for access to the loft which was over the principal screen, such as we see standing at Dennington in Suffolk, in very perfect form.

Practically every church in England at one time possessed a loft over the chancel screen. This feature was introduced into our parish churches in the fourteenth century being at

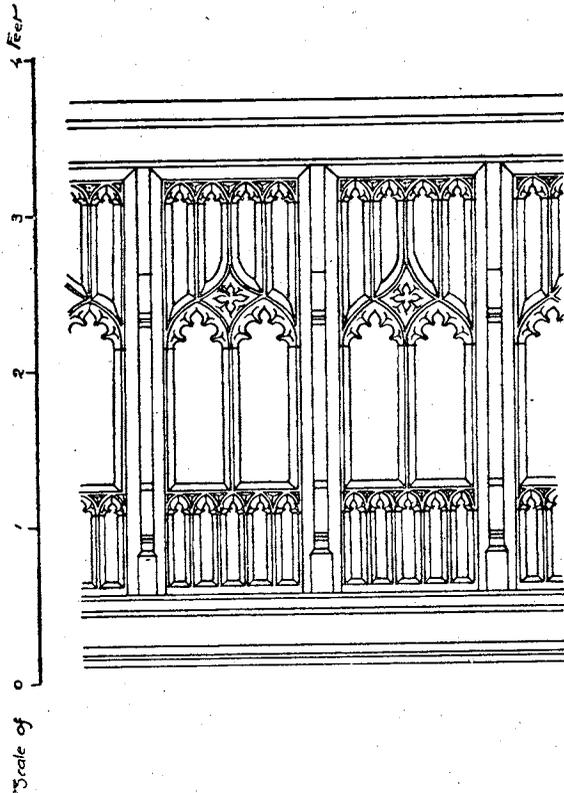


Fig. 2. Gamlingay. Traceried panels of Loft—now at the west end of church.

first an adaptation of the Jubé or pulpitum of the larger churches, but being closely connected with the Great Rood, which tradition placed upon a beam over the entry to the chancel, it was known as the roodloft, and in the earlier examples appears frequently if not universally to have held an altar to the Holy Rood. Other uses it had as well; but towards

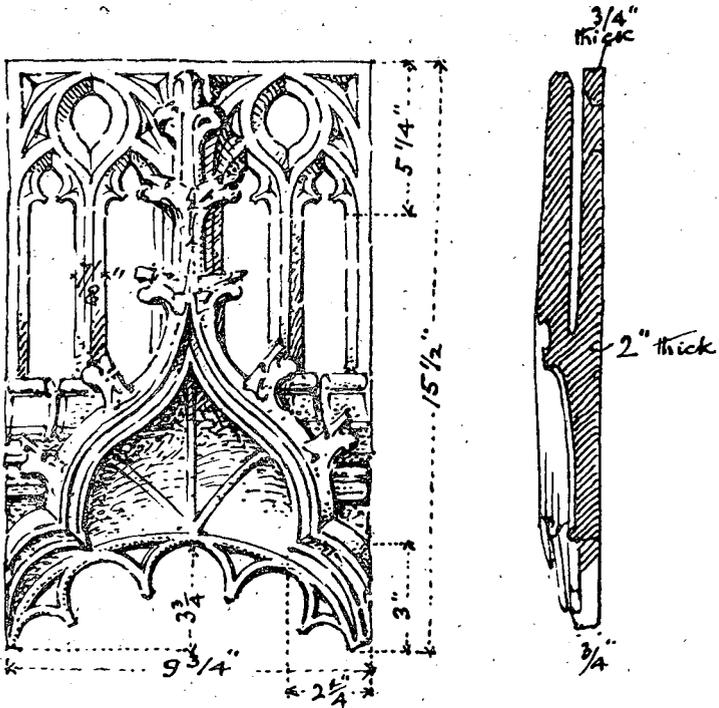
the fifteenth century it seems to have changed its character, becoming used more and more as a musician's gallery, until at last this appears to have been its principal 'raison d'être.'

Roodlofts were erected in large numbers during the latter half of the fifteenth, and the early years of the sixteenth, century, and the late J. T. Micklethwaite was strongly of opinion that this was in consequence of the increased use of polyphonic music for church services in the years prior to the Reformation. Old parochial accounts yield abundant references to the organs which were in the Roodloft, and which were often placed over the choir door in the position assigned in the earlier lofts to the Rood altar.

A fair number of Roodlofts remain in Great Britain, and most of these exhibit gallery fronts of great richness, often prepared for the reception of figure paintings or statuary. Others had a plainer treatment of traceried panelling. There remain in Cambridgeshire no instances of ancient lofts preserved in their position over the screens, but at Gamlingay, above the screen in the tower arch at the west end, is a section of ornamental panelling believed by the writer to have been brought from such a position. It is of light Perpendicular panelling (fig. 2), pierced, and traceried, but without any indication of colour or sculptured enrichments. In the University Museum of Archaeology in Cambridge is preserved a canopy-head which it is believed formerly belonged to the gallery-front of a screen. This was taken either from Madingley church or from an old church long ago destroyed at Histon, and was preserved for many years at Madingley Court. It is of excellent design. A slight sketch is given of this interesting fragment which indicates that the loft from which it was taken would have possessed the true character of an Iconostasis if, as we may reasonably infer from other existing examples, it was one of a series (fig. 3).

There is a striking difference of design noticeable between screens of the earlier and those of the later period. In the earlier the tracery forms are usually simpler, and although the arcaded form is often observable in the heads of the lights, these are usually found to be set within a rectangular framework

of moulded uprights and horizontal head beam. The loft usually projected over this to the westward, and was ceiled beneath with a rising soffit of panelling, at times flat, but often coved or hollowed, and diversified with ribs and bosses.



Fragment of Canopywork  
 formerly in Madingley or Histon Church  
 (demolished) — now in Univ<sup>y</sup>. Museum of Archaeology  
 at Cambridge.

Fig. 3.

In later times beautiful modifications of this type were invented, and we see such examples as is afforded by the screen at Balsham where the loft is carried over the east side as well as the west of the screen, and the western coving is groined and broken into ribbed vaulting in its lower part with magnificent effect. (Pl. XIX., XX.) This fine screen dates from the



Balsham. East side of rood screen shewing chancel stalls returned on north side.



Over. East side of rood screen shewing the vaulting.

beginning of the fifteenth century and is remarkable for the beauty of its proportions.

It is more worthy of note since there remain unfortunately but few examples of perfect vaulting or coving to the heads of screens in Cambridgeshire. Most of them have suffered grievous loss in the removal of almost every feature of interest or beauty over the head-rail and but few retain even their cornice enrichments.

At Over (Pl. XX.) may be seen the original vaulting of the screen on its east face, but on the west it has been removed. There is probably no other ancient example now standing in the county which exhibits the perfect form of the vaulting as we see it at Balsham.

In a succeeding paper it is hoped that a detailed description of screenwork in Cambridgeshire may be attempted, together with a full list of screens, or parts of screens now remaining, together with an analysis and comparison of their design, and other matters touched upon by the writer in his lecture recently delivered before the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, which, for the better division of the subject, are relegated to the supplementary article.

Monday, 18 May, 1908.

R. BOWES, Esq., Treasurer, in the Chair.

The Reverend F. G. WALKER, M.A., read the following paper which was illustrated by lantern slides.

### REPORT ON THE EXCAVATIONS AT BARTON.

#### *Black Ash Ditch.*

The Barton earthwork forced itself upon my attention the first time I cycled past it on my way to Comberton, the parish of which I have the charge. Riding by the spot at least six times each week during the past two years the possibilities of the site made more and more impression upon my mind, and as one can never see such a spot without longing to put spade to it, I determined, that, owner and tenant being propitious, I would one day see what was the origin of so tempting a morsel from the antiquary's point of view.

Last November on the representation of the subject by Professor Hughes and myself, the Council of our Society made a grant, in order that the ground might be thoroughly explored.

I must express my very sincere thanks to the Council for thus providing me with a piece of work, which, in spite of the winter's rain and cold, was very delightful. Let me take this opportunity of thanking Professor Hughes for, what so many of us have experienced at his hands, much kindly help and sympathy, as well as useful criticism, and also add my acknowledgements to Mr Geoffrey Keynes, of Pembroke College, for his indefatigable and cheery assistance.

The thanks of the Society are due to the University which owns the land, and to the tenant, Mr R. Warwick, for giving us permission to excavate.

These earthworks are situated in a grass field  $3\frac{1}{4}$  miles from Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge, and can be reached

as follows:—go along the Barton and Wimpole road to the third mile stone from Cambridge; take the first turning to the right, and the field is the second one on the left side of the road.

The earthworks comprise two oblong areas, enclosed by moats.

The larger one measures:—

	Outside	Inside
Northern side	A—B 160 ft.	E—F 110 ft.
Southern „	C—D 180 ft.	G—H 140 ft.
Eastern „	A—C 200 ft.	E—G 150 ft.
Western „	B—D 180 ft.	F—H 130 ft.

It is surrounded by a moat 30 ft. wide by 6 ft. 6 ins. deep, that is, to the original bottom. Much silting has occurred, so that in places, especially on the east side, the moat is but 2 ft. deep.

The smaller area K.I.L.M. is fairly rectangular, and measures 60 ft. by 80 ft. Its moat is 20 ft. wide, and was originally 5 ft. deep, though now only 2 or 3 ft.

We may practically discard the smaller moat from our calculations. The long trench, marked on Fig. 1, though dug only 4 ft. deep reached solid gault at 3 ft. and disclosed but few fragments of late mediaeval pottery. Nothing whatever had been turned out by the moles whose heaps covered the whole space.

Of the two trenches at the W. corner of the larger moat the longer one only gave evidence of mediaeval date in the shape of sherds, the shorter one was dug in absolutely undisturbed ground.

Made earth	9 inches.
Coarse gravel	2 ft. to 2 ft. 6 ins.
Gault.	

All that follows refers to the larger area.

The whole field slopes gradually from N. to S. and water easily flows away to the S. towards the Bourne Brook; all the village drains and ditches carry water in that direction.

We were much troubled by water rising in the trenches as

we worked. Quite a foot or fifteen inches of the Black Ash was under water the whole time. The pump was kept going every day.

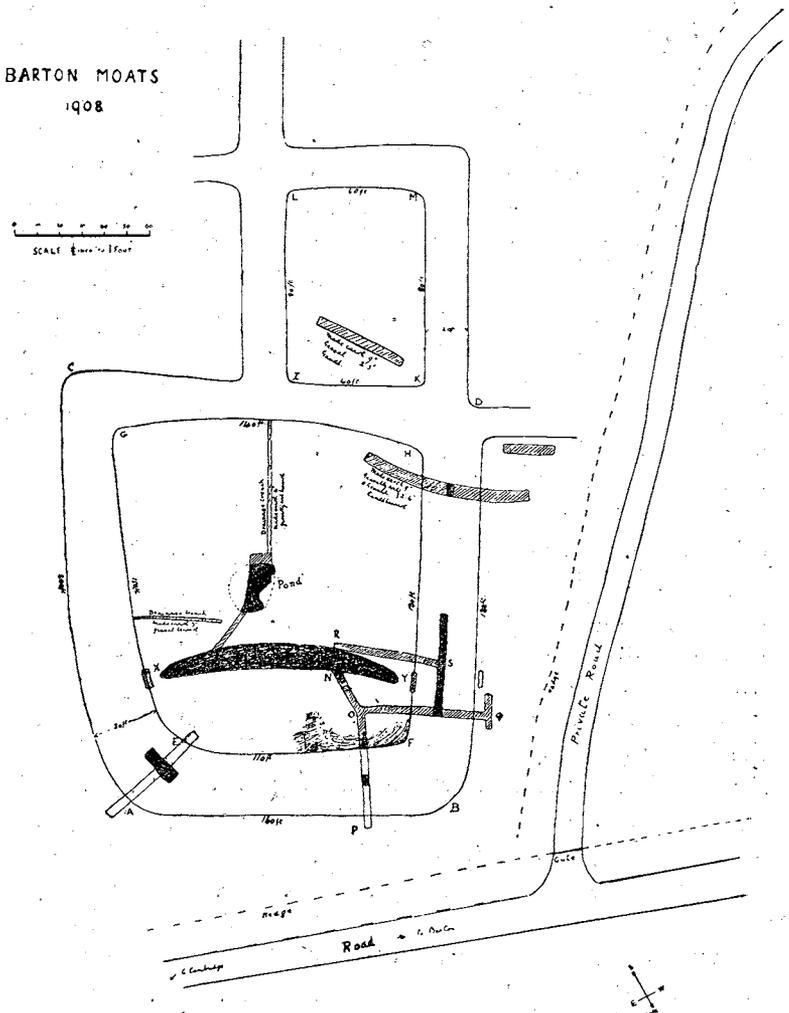


Fig. 1.

The land must have been drier in the days when this site was first occupied, or fires could not have been lighted, as they

were, 5 or 6 ft. below the level of the present surface of the ground.

At the N. corner of this area is a mound raised about 4 ft. above the level of the rest of the enclosure, extending and sloping some 50 ft. towards the S. and E.

The entrance over the moat seemed to be at the E. corner between A. and E. When the trench was dug here, the ground was found to have been disturbed, presumably for putting in two bush drains through which we cut.

The earthworks which appeared above ground were of mediaeval date, made most probably about 800—1000 A.D. The fragments of pottery, which were found at the bottom of the four sections across the moat, as well as the position of a Norman spur, sufficiently prove this.

The removal of all stones from the site of the earlier building, as is so often the case in East Anglia where there is a scarcity of building stone, makes this clear.

The probability is that the Saxon or Norman house, of which this moat was the defence, stood on this larger area—one may say on the mound—and that this was pulled down, and rebuilt where the present Manor House (now called University Farm) stands, the material of the old house being used in constructing the new one. The earliest document in the possession of the University, preserved in the Registry's Office, relating to this house is dated 1595. It, and the documents succeeding it in point of date, seem to show that the Martins, the family then owning it, had been dwelling there some time. The Farm has been University property since it was purchased from the Martin family, for about £1500, in 1681.

The first trench dug was across the moat at P.O. on plan, and then the one marked Q.O. This was to throw possible light upon the age of the moat and the cause of the mound—the highest point of which is at O. It led us to believe that the moat was of early mediaeval age and that the mound was of about the same date. The broken pottery was evidence of this.

At the junction of these trenches, O, 4 feet down—that is at about the original level of the ground—there was a layer of

burnt earth, 2 or 3 inches in depth, spreading over a space of about 2 square yards. It contained only a very few fragments of early mediaeval vessels.

From O, the trench was continued at a depth, as before, of 4 ft. up to the trench marked R.S.

Here was touched the deposit which was henceforward called the "Black Ash Ditch" from the substance which chiefly filled the trench.

A large hole was dug in this black ash, and finding it full of bones, burnt and otherwise, and fragmentary pottery, it was determined to work this out. Water flowed in so fast from the eastward, that trench R.S. was dug to convey it away, and the long trench down the centre of the outer moat from the trench O.Q. was also made to facilitate this object.

After this, work was continued steadily eastward, following the line of what soon showed itself plainly to be a ditch, hollowed out of the solid gravel and gault, 12 ft. wide, and 5 ft. deep in the lowest places, but with an average depth of about 4 ft. It extended 110 ft. as shown on Plan, thinning out to a few inches in depth at each end, and stopping just short of the outer moat, on both the eastern and western sides.

The enlarged sections on Fig. 2 indicate the kinds of soil passed through in every trench excavated.

The "Black Ash" layer was composed of a mixture of burnt straw, seeds—mostly barley—bones, pottery, nails and other iron or bronze articles, eggshells, fish, oyster, mussel and cockle shells, hazel nuts, and quantities of burnt twigs and small branches of wood.

The material filling the trench was perfectly black, sometime a fine powder, mostly a slippery paste, except in two places (as shown on Fig. 2), where there was a patch of perfectly white ash. In one case this was 8 ft. in length and 1 foot in depth, in the other about the same length but only 6 ins. deep, in both cases extending the whole width of the ditch. What caused this difference in colour I cannot say. The white ash contained seeds and bits of straw, just as the Black Ash did and in places formed a kind of pumice stone with the seeds and straw in it.



It will, perhaps, be well to give here a list of the various

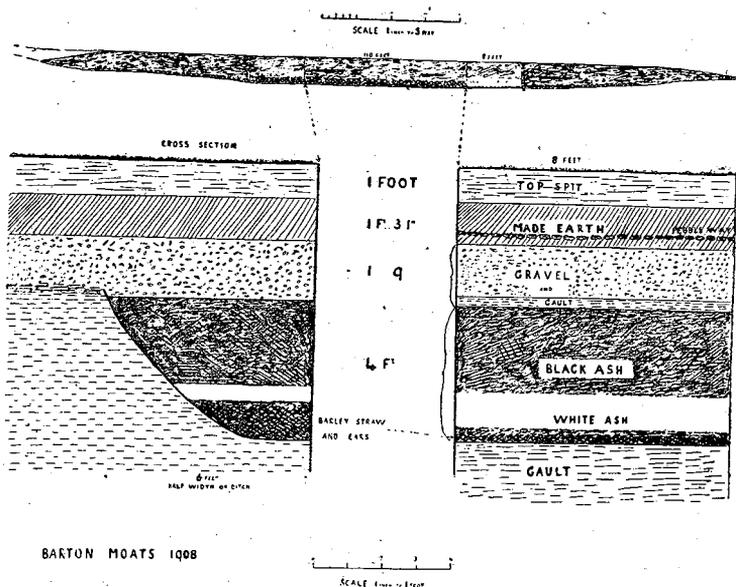


Fig. 2.

objects found in this Black Ditch, and to discuss their relative position afterwards.

*Animals, bones of.*

- Horse
- Ox
- Sheep, horned (*Ovis aries*)
- Lamb
- Pig
- Sucking pig
- Dog (skull and other bones), a kind of terrier
- Cat.

*Birds.*

- Swan
- Crane (skull)
- Goose (skull)
- Pheasant

Fowl—mostly cock birds by the number of spurs found

Lark

Eggshells—in great quantities.

*Fish.*

Cod (the lower jaw, and spine on backbone, the 3rd from the head)

Perch (scales and fins).

Many fish bones and vertebrae were discovered, but not in a condition for identification.

*Seeds.*

Barley (*Hordeum distichon*), the two-rowed form

Wheat

Vetch (in pod)

Bean (*Faba vulgaris*)

Cherry (cultivated)

Plum

Hemlock

Dill

Celery

Coriander

Belladonna

Opium Poppy

Dock

Buttercup.

} These are always found in Roman deposits and appear to have been used as condiments.

*Woods.*

Alder

Willow

Hazel.

*Shells.*

Oyster, quantities from 1 foot above Black Ash to bottom of ditch; most plentiful at the upper half of, and just above, the Black Ash

Mussel (*Mytilus edulis*), R. and L. valves, in great numbers, the largest one containing pearls

Periwinkle (*Littorina litorea*), one broken specimen.

Cockle (*Cardium edule*), R. and L. valves



Carved hollow bones and bone pin, (late Celtic or Roman), and bone scoop.

Tellina (*Balthica*?)

Snail (*Helix aspersa*),

„ (*Helix memoralis*).

*Wood, Bone and Metal Work.*

These are mentioned according to their *probable* date, that is according to the position in which they were found, beginning with the lowest and presumably the earliest.

*Late Celtic or Roman* (Pl. XXI.).

Bone pin  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ins. exactly, in length. The head is formed by a figure of a bird, the body curved so that the head and tail almost meet. It is ornamented with the Celtic ring and dot pattern.

*Two pieces of hollow bone*, beautifully carved. One  $2\frac{3}{8}$  ins. long, which had been burnt, adorned by a spiral device containing the Celtic ring and dot pattern. This had holes through it at both ends but not in the same plane. It could not have been a Saxon knife handle, as has been suggested to me, for neither of these carved bones has the bulging end which invariably I believe—certainly in all cases I have seen—forms part of an early mediaeval knife handle.

The other 3 ins. long, unburnt, has the same ring and dot pattern, divided into bands with a criss-cross device. This has a groove cut near one end, presumably that a cord might be fastened round it, and so be suspended from the user's belt.

Mr Reginald Smith, F.S.A., to whom these objects were submitted, points out the close resemblance between these two carved pieces of bone, and similar things described in Roach Smith's *Illustrations of Roman London*, pl. xxxvii., and in Bathurst's *Antiquities at Lydney Park*, pl. x., figs. 4—6, and unhesitatingly says they are of Roman origin, and were knife handles. The bone pin he assigns to the Roman period.

A *Scoop*,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  ins. long, cut out of a small bone of a bird. This is also burnt, and was so fragile that in cleaning the dirt from it with a brush it broke in several places.

(Perhaps I may be allowed to give a word of warning to possible excavators:

On finding any article of bone or ivory, or even metal, put it aside for a day or two, just as it is, until it has dried naturally.

Any attempt at cleaning until then, nine times out of ten, involves a breakage. Resist the temptation to gloat over your treasure until it is safe to do so.)

*Horse shoes* (Pl. XXII.). One perfect one—which Professor Hughes pronounced to be the most Roman looking one he had seen from Cambridgeshire, and I agree with him—and several portions of shoes.

*Two knives* (Pl. XXII.), which I confidently assign to Roman times.

*A Roman key*, iron (Pl. XXIII.).

*A Roman stylus*, iron (Pl. XXIII.).

*A bronze harness buckle*, late Celtic (Pl. XXIII.).

*A scabbard point*, iron and bronze.

Pieces of iron, some pointed—from 4 to 7 ins. in length and covered mostly with the remains of wood.

One piece 7 ins. long is 2 to 3 ins. wide, also covered with wood.

Eight fragments of millstones of Niedermendig lava.

Seven pieces of Roman tiles.

One pavement tessera of Roman tile.

Twelve hones, or fragments of hones (the four best are figured, Pl. XXIV.). Some had grooves rubbed longitudinally into them, having been used to sharpen pointed instruments, some plainly used for putting an edge on flat blades, such as knives. The stone used in making them is a micaceous or quartzitic schist; one or two specimens are of rather fine grain.

While on the subject of cutting tools it is interesting to mention that I found chips of wood, cut with a knife, in the same layer of Black Ash in which the two knives, given in the list above, were discovered.

All these things mentioned hitherto were found *in* the Black Ash, what follow were found *above* the Black Ash.

*Saxon buckle*, bronze (Pl. XXIII.).

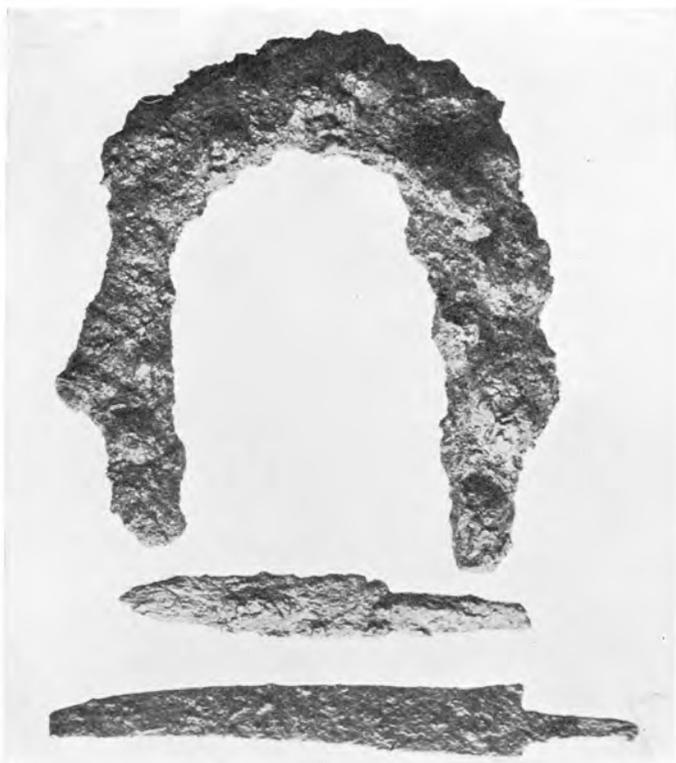
Two arrow heads, iron.

Part of a broad knife blade.

Many other pieces of iron articles.

*Norman spur*, 18 ins. from surface (Pl. XXIII.).

(I have not mentioned every piece of metal found—only those whose use could at once be determined.)



Roman horseshoe and knives.



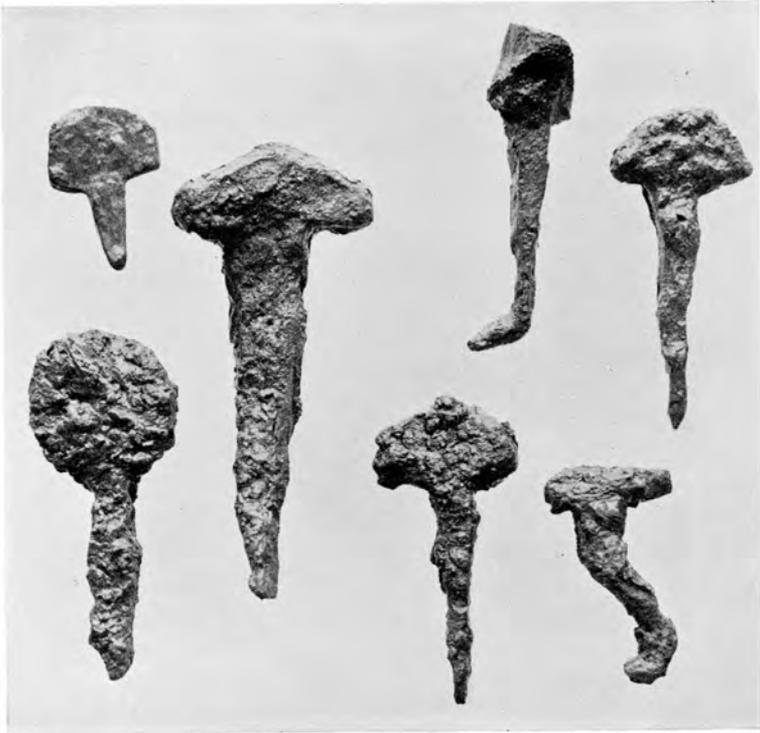
Pot from hearth, 9 inches across rim, 7 inches high, with ordinary type Roman pot for comparison.



1. Bronze buckle, late Celtic. 2. Roman stylus, iron. 3. Roman key, iron.  
4. Bronze buckle, Saxon. 5. Norman spur.



Hones Scale  $\frac{2}{3}$  actual size.



Bronze and iron nails.

*Modern*—within 1 ft. from surface.

Part of bullock shoe.

Base of patten.

Wedges of iron, like scythe wedges.

Knife with wooden sides to handle.

Knife with curved handle, iron.

Part of bit, and many other fragments.

Nails, 17 in number, of which seven are illustrated, one bronze—others of iron like it (Pl. XXV.).

These were distributed through the ash and soil above it, the bronze one (at the top left-hand corner in the illustration), and those most like it, in the ash.

Now comes a piece of evidence which helps to fix an approximate date for the moat.

Just below the level of the Norman spur—in fact the spur was lying just upon it—was found what we promptly called the Pebble Way. It was a footpath about 5 ft. wide, running at an average depth of 1 ft. 9 ins. below the grass (Pl. XXVIII).

The line of this was across the moat from Q to R and continued to the spot marked "Pond" of mediaeval date. The stones forming this path had clearly been picked out from the Boulder Clay in the neighbourhood. The proportion of such stones to ordinary flints was 60—70 per cent., while in other parts of the ground similar sized flints from the gravel were 75 per cent. of the stones.

This Pebble Way was made *after* the Saxon buckle was dropped, but *before* the Norman spur was left there, and from its being cut through by the moat, it must have been earlier than the moat. That is why I assign the construction of the moat to about 800 to 1000 A.D.

This footpath clearly led to the "Pond." The contents of the "Pond" show that it must have been used, if not made, in mediaeval times (see Plan).

The seeds found in it as well as the pottery show it to have been of later date than the Black Ash Ditch.

Mr Clement Reid, F.R.S., to whom I am indebted for help in identifying the seeds and twigs, says of the samples of earth

sent him from this spot: "The 'Pond' yields 'Barley,' a doubtful vetch, and two weeds of cultivation: *Chenopodium*—the goosefoot or pig weed. *Polygonum aviculare*—the knot-grass."

The goosefoot (*Chenopodium olidum*) within the last fifty years was cultivated in the herb gardens of Surrey, and annually sold in Covent Garden Market for its medicinal properties, while another kind, the "Good King Henry" (*Chenopodium bonus-henricus*) was of old times much cultivated in gardens, and was so very generally in the cottage plots of Boston, Lincolnshire, until about forty years ago. It may be cultivated still.

The knot-grass (*Polygonum aviculare*). This is the "hindering knot-grass" of Shakespeare. "Get you gone, you dwarf; you minimus, of hindering knot-grass made" (*Midsummer Night's Dream*, Act III. Sc. II. 329).

A decoction from it was formerly supposed to prevent the growth of children, as well as of young domestic animals.

Beaumont and Fletcher allude to this supposed property: "Twere worse than knot-grass; he would never grow after it."

Yet it has always been well known to those who tend sheep, as being not only nutritious to those animals, but much relished by them.

Milton in *Comus*, makes a shepherd-spirit say:

"This evening late, by then the chewing flocks  
Had ta'en their supper on the savoury herb  
Of knot-grass, dew-besprent,....."

The pottery found on this spot is late in type—most of it of very ordinary kind, but one specimen is unusual. It has been carefully mounted by Mr S. Cowles, of the Archaeological Museum, who has also put together most satisfactorily several other pots. It resembles, more than anything, a large modern wash-hand basin. Its diameter is 19 ins.

We now come to the question of the age of the Black Ash Ditch and its contents.

*Burnt straw and barley.*

At intervals along the greater part of the bottom of the Black Ash, with a thickness of a foot and more, was what

appeared to be a layer of burnt straw; in it, and above it, the barley seeds and ears were most plentiful (see Fig. 2). This puzzled me considerably until I remembered reading of what had been found at Glastonbury.

Mr Clement Reid, to whom I sent large samples of this straw ash, as well as of other parts of the Black Ash, without mentioning my surmise as to Glastonbury, writes as follows:

"By far the most abundant seed is barley, which seems to occur in the same curious way as at Glastonbury (1st cent. B.C. to 1st cent. A.D.) and at Old Kilpatrick (Celtic?). The barley seems to have been stored as broken ears with the awns broken off, and I think that in each case it was more probably used for malting than for bread.

Unfortunately I can only find a few specimens of grain attached to the ear. But these seem sufficient to show that some of the barley was a two-rowed form (*Hordeum distichon*) corresponding with one of the two Celtic barleys found at the two localities just mentioned. The ear is somewhat irregular, with several terminal barren or partly filled spikelets.

I cannot make out the relation of the straw to the barley. At other localities the mode of occurrence suggests that the grain was piled on a bed of straw, possibly to germinate for malting; but this is a point that can only be settled by examination in the field."

In my search I found many portions of ears of barley, but on attempting to brush, very gently, the ash from the ear, the husk came off and fell into fragments.

I then let a quantity of the material, in which this straw and grain occurred, weather naturally, the action of sun, rain and wind separated the bits of ears in a perfect manner.

The last point, the relation of the straw to the barley, I have made clear already; it was quite easily seen when *in situ* before being dug out.

I think the evidence of the grain and straw, the Celtic pin, and carved bones with the Celtic bronze harness buckle, and perhaps the bronze nail (I have not seen a Roman bronze nail like it), are sufficient warrant for drawing the conclusion that the ditch was made in late Celtic times, *i.e.* by the end of the first century A.D.

Two other bits of evidence of early habitation may confirm this.

Near the bottom of the Black Ash I picked out a piece of

charred wood, shaped like a Diabolo reel, that probably once formed part of some spinning implement. At one end is a groove through the wood which seems to have received a pin fastening it to another part of the instrument. Similar articles of turned wood were found at the Glastonbury lake dwellings.

On looking closely at this groove, one can see how it was made.

The tool used was not one that turned round and round in the same direction, like the modern gimlet, but was turned half right, and then half left. The markings of such action are quite plain.

The implement was old enough when burnt to have become worm-eaten—the worm holes are there. This was found close to the pot on the fire which will shortly be described.

Next, at or close to, the bottom of the ditch were several lumps of daub, with twig and grass markings quite clear upon them.

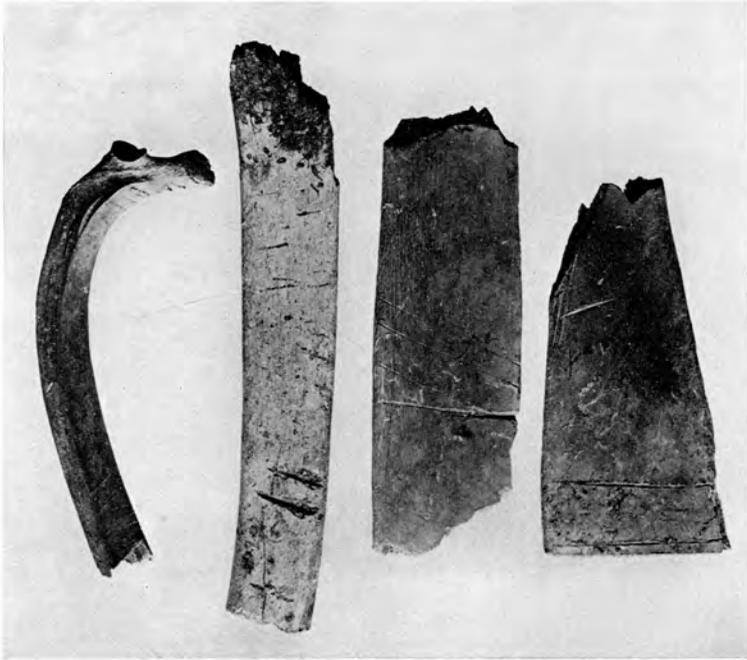
These were, without doubt, parts of a wattle and daub hut.

Caesar and other writers of his age mention such being used by the Gauls and Britons (Caesar, *B. G.* v. 12).

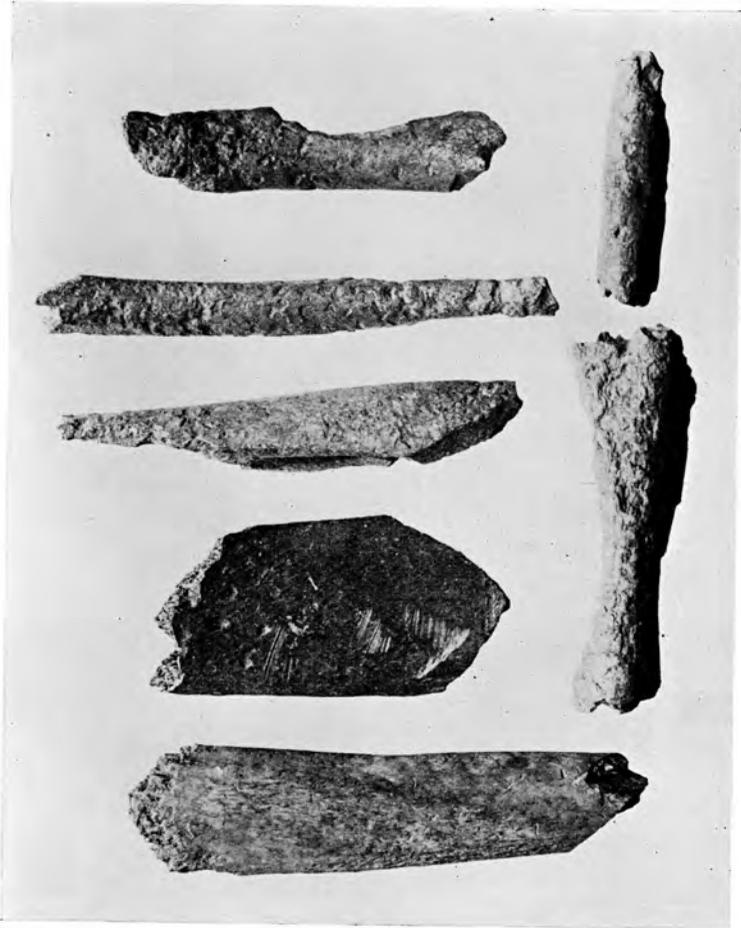
Judging from what one noticed during the five months' digging, this ditch seemed to have formed a kind of shelter trench in which wattle and daub huts were erected, instead of in separate pits. Several charred points of stakes were found sticking into the gault at the bottom of the trench. Most of them fell to pieces on being lifted. Two, however, bore removal, and are now in the Archaeological Museum.

Outside what one took to be the sites of huts were the fire-places, for burnt stones in positions which looked as if they had formed hearths, turned up in fair quantities; associated with these were animal and bird bones—many of them burnt, some in their ordinary state—remains of fish, mussel and cockle shells, eggshells, hazel nuts, beans and a number of bones cut and gnawed. This all pointed to dwelling places being near.

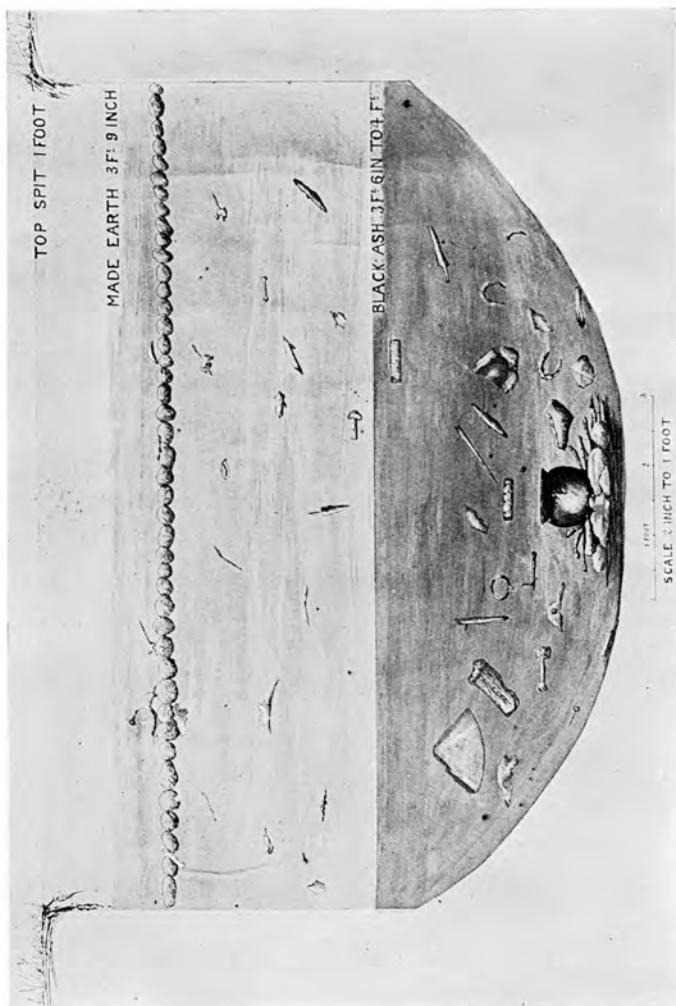
The cut and gnawed bones are interesting. The bones were cut with a knife—there are no marks of a saw—two rib bones in particular emphasise that point; they had been cut across with a knife, back and front, and then snapped in two (Plates XXVI, XXVII.)



Bones cut with knives.



Bones gnawed by animals.



Barton Moats. Section across Black Ash Ditch.

This all reminds us of what Posidonius (Athénaeus, iv. 36, cf. Diodorus Siculus, v. 28 and Strabo, iv. 4) relates of his travels in Gaul. He tells us how when the Gauls welcomed him in their wattle and daub huts, his hosts, seated on straw round low tables, took their meat in their fingers and tore it like lions, or chopped it in pieces with their pocket knives, and washed it down with draughts of beer from earthenware or silver beakers.

These things together with the distinctive articles of Roman date point to the occupation of this trench by Celts and Romans; by the former, possibly, during the first century B.C., and almost certainly—I am inclined to say quite certainly—by both during the first century A.D.

One other point ought to be mentioned as bearing on the early date to which the occupation of this ditch should be assigned.

The bones of fowls that were found were certainly mostly those of cocks, from the many spurs still existing. These spurs may suggest, to those who remember that the Britons thought it impious to eat poultry, that the amusement or pastime, for which, as Caesar says (*B. G.* v. 12), the birds were reared, was cock-fighting.

I have kept to the last the fact of my discovery of a cooking pot on a fire just as it was left by the last user, some 1800 years ago, as I believe, for round this controversy will turn.

Plate XXVIII. gives an accurate representation of the relative position of many of the articles mentioned already. I say relative because, though the *horizon* of each thing here shown is correct, three of them did not occur in that particular section of the trench. The two carved pieces of bone were found a few yards to the eastward, over a similar hearth, but with no cooking pot in position. The scabbard point was also to the eastward, some 8 yards away.

The pot itself, with the stones and embers on which it rested and a piece of the burnt gault beneath, I have placed, exactly as it was found, on a tray in the Cambridge Archaeological Museum.

This hearth was at the very bottom of the trench. The

stones were in a rough circle, placed there to admit draught, just as a navy now uses a few bricks when cooking or warming a meal in the open air. On the stones were the charred remains of the wood which had been used for boiling the pot.

On the wood stood the pot, and in it were some bones.

The small hone (Pl. XXIV.) was in the position indicated.

Now of what date is this pot?

If the upper half alone of it had been found, it would have been assigned unhesitatingly to the Roman age in Britain, but because of the shape of the base, I am told it *must* be mediaeval. The word mediaeval is a very loose expression. Before applying it people ought to be compelled to define its meaning.

Most antiquaries will agree that it may refer to anything from the year 700 to 1500 A.D. In this instance one gathers *early* mediaeval is meant. I wish to put two questions, and shall be very glad if they can be answered *definitely* and *satisfactorily*.

(1) Has an early mediaeval cooking pot ever been discovered on its hearth as left by the early mediaeval man, and if so, what was its shape?

(2) When did the rather pointed base of the pot usually assigned to the Roman age pass into the broader base of the pot usually assigned to mediaeval times?

Where is the transition pot? For no one I think would say that the potters in this country suddenly gave up one style altogether, and afterwards made only another type (Pl. XXII.).

I cannot believe, after the very careful attention given to the whole excavation, and the notes made at once, on the spot, of what was done and seen, that an early mediaeval man, sometime during the years between 700 and 900, when he wanted to cook his meal, and having the whole of Barton from which to select a site for his hearth, chose to dig down through at least 4 ft. of ash, and perhaps through some gravel above it, in order to make his fire on the solid gault below, and then very carefully replace the ash and put a Roman key and stylus, a piece of Niedermendig lava millstone and a Celtic bronze buckle above it, and close by it, lay the small Celtic bone pin, and two pieces

of Roman tile, and then leave his Saxon buckle behind him to mark the spot.

The notion seems preposterous—and equally absurd would be the assumption that the whole trench is of early mediaeval date, and that all these articles above mentioned accidentally fell into the positions I found them.

The only conclusion to be drawn from the facts is, it seems, that here we have a pot used during the first century A.D., with rim and upper half exactly like typical pots of the Roman period, and made of a paste commonly used during that time. Therefore, considering all the circumstances under which the vessel was discovered, we have here the transition shape, combining the Roman rim and the so-called mediaeval base, in use during the early days of the Roman occupation of Britain.

That this statement will be considered by some an archaeological heresy I am fully aware, but until the two questions I put just now are answered satisfactorily, and the position of the Roman articles above the hearth explained away, I do not think anyone has sufficient authority to condemn this opinion.

I am open to conviction, and have only come to this conclusion after very careful consideration of the facts.

The pottery discovered has hardly been touched upon.

Of some three dozen rims of pots, taken chiefly from the middle layer of the Black Ash (a few pieces were at a slightly lower and higher horizon), every single piece except one, and that nearly, I can match with rims I found in the Roman rubbish pits at Godmanchester. If I sometimes seem to lay stress upon the pottery from that spot it is perhaps pardonable for this reason:

Those pits, some 20 in number, were, about the close of the Roman occupation of Britain, sealed hermetically one may say.

A great flood must have caused the river Ouse to rise and sweep across them, covering them with a layer, several inches deep, of the gravel in which the pits were dug. *Below* this gravel Roman implements, pins, pottery, etc., were found in plenty, many of which are in the Museum—*above* it was not a single

piece of pottery, or metal that could be assigned to the Roman times.

One may conclude that the earthenware contents of those pits may be taken as a very definite standard of Roman pottery—not complete of course, but certain.

They are absolutely Roman with no possible admixture of Saxon or early mediaeval stuff amongst them.

Very little pottery was found in the lower half of the Black Ash; it was fairly plentiful in the upper foot, but there was a quantity in the gravel above it of early mediaeval date.

At the top of the made earth or coarse gravel, and in the top spit, were fragments of glazed earthenware which one may set down as of a date between 1100 and 1500 A.D. This agrees with the known fact of the house, which once stood on this site, being rebuilt in its present position, about the fifteenth century.

Most will agree with me, I think, as to the probabilities of this site: that we have at Barton a place where some late Celtic people dug a trench—it is hand-made not natural—and lived in it. That the Romans drove them out, burnt their huts and corn, and occupied it as a shelter trench for a very limited period, since not a coin of any description was found in it.

A coin-dropping folk, such as the Romans, and Romanised peoples were, could hardly have lived long in this place without leaving *some* money behind them.

That some Celts, Romanised or otherwise, came again and settled in this spot, and were again driven out, this time by the Saxons—the early mediaeval people—seems fairly evident by the amount of Black Ash. One burning would not account for a thickness of 4 ft.

That the Saxons having destroyed this dwelling place and not finding a Roman villa, a building they dreaded—though Roman houses must have been in existence a few hundred yards away, as I hope to prove next autumn—these early mediaeval men, or Saxons, built themselves a house near by, and flung their rubbish into what was left of the Ditch, now a mere depression, and made a pathway of pebbles over it to the

convenient pond. Then, later on, this suitable site was moated, the pebble-way cut through and some Norman, passing on his lawful, or unlawful, occasions dropped his spur.

Professor Hughes in response to a call from the chair said that when Commendatore Boni delivered his interesting lecture on the Forum in the Sedgwick Museum last year, he remarked, in reference to the pre-Romulian Sepulcretum, that it was once possible to ascertain the exact date of the urns by observing the magnetic dip which had left a permanent impression on the pottery in the process of firing, but that his investigations had been disturbed by the proximity of the electric cable and by Marconigraphic waves. He hoped, however, to carry them on by means of material from other parts of Italy and from the banks of the Danube.

They wanted some such method in order to enable them to arrive at a conclusion respecting the date of the objects before them. He had little doubt that the vessel exhibited, which had been found on a spot showing evidence of a fire, was of early mediaeval date, but it had been pointed out that in the ground above there were objects referred to Roman and even pre-Roman times. Here was the hypothetical part which seemed to him to require further looking into. There was plenty of evidence that ornaments and objects of common use in Celtic times lasted long among the Romanised natives and still more that Roman appliances, being better, were adopted and carried down far into mediaeval times. He felt inclined to carry this part of the question before them to a suspense account. He thanked and congratulated Mr Walker for the trouble he had bestowed upon the investigations and the clearness with which he had laid the results before the Society.

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Monday, 25 May, 1908.

On this date an exhibition was opened of a selection of Portraits belonging to the Society, of persons connected with the County, University and Borough, combined with an exhibition of Cambridge Caricatures.

A paper descriptive of the Caricatures was read by H. D. CATLING, M.A.

Friday, 29 May, 1908.

Dr VENN, President, in the Chair.

A paper by C. P. ALLIX, M.A., Trin. Coll., and Professor HUGHES was read by the latter

### ON A TUMULUS RECENTLY EXPLORED ON NEWMARKET HEATH.

The district between Cambridge and Newmarket is of exceptional interest to the historian and archaeologist because of the evidence which it offers of continuous occupation by man from the Palaeolithic Age to the present day. Palaeolithic man lived there. His roughly dressed flint implements occur over the higher ground all round Hare Park. Mrs Hughes found one *in situ* within a few hundred yards of the tumulus we are going to describe.

Neolithic man left his polished celts of various types and different material all over the area while the fens were growing.

Bronze was introduced and became fairly abundant, though stone flakes and scrapers were still in common use, as seen in the Settlement recently explored near Swaffham Prior.

By and by, as trade with the continent sprung up and increased, iron and a better quality of earthenware were imported and superseded the rude native manufactures, but of this episode we have as yet hardly any evidence here.

We have little to indicate where any of these various successive peoples lived. Their graves remain, but little other evidence, save a lost weapon here and there.

Then the Romans came and conquered, and established a strong government which encouraged agriculture, and introduced a more comfortable style of living, as seen in their settlements, and villas, and cemeteries, especially along the rivers and lower ground.

The Romanised natives vied with one another in the acquisition of Roman appliances and the adoption of Roman culture.

The powerful and vigorous Teutonic peoples, more Scandinavian here, more German there, had long been landing on our coast and, on the withdrawal of the Roman legionaries, poured in, and, after many a fierce fight with those who were there before them, and often among the later comers themselves, conquered the district and settled in it.

Every one of these various peoples, differing in age and race and religion, has left a recognisable trace in the district from which we now offer one small contribution, namely an account of the opening of a burying place of the later Bronze Age.

But if the positive evidence we offer is of interest, the questions raised in the progress of our investigations but left unanswered, the suggestions of important episodes and of thrilling incidents in our history, all stir up a longing to prosecute these enquiries more heartily and generously—not with a view to obtaining pretty objects for our museums, but in order to collect evidence bearing upon our history, for which potsherds and broken weapons are at least as much to be trusted as inscriptions and coins.

In our excavations near Hare Park we have found burials by the people of the Bronze Age and sepulchral mounds of the Scandinavians on the outlying hill which forms the end of a spur projecting into the lower ground on the south. Out towards Westley Waterley on the south-east a curious lead vessel<sup>1</sup> was found with the endless intertwined pattern on ornaments like inverted northern crosses all round it and filled with scrap iron such as was used by the Romans and Romanised Britons. While further out to the south-west on the low undulating ground near Wilbraham is the burying place of a people whom we call Saxons who laid their dead in cemeteries, disposed in regular order, but have left nothing to mark the spot. There are tumuli near by but respecting these we know nothing.

The tumulus we now propose to describe is on the property of Mr W. Brodrick Cloete and is a quarter of a mile N. 60° W.

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* 1879, Vol. iv. 1881, p. xiv, Pl.

of his residence, Hare Park. He selected it as probably unopened, and the results justified his opinion. To his courtesy and hospitality we owe the opportunity of exploring it systematically and leisurely.

The hill consists of the chalk above the Melbourn Rock, *i.e.* about the zone of *Rhynchonella Cuvieri*, with patches of gravel which sometimes runs down in pipes and sometimes lies in thick beds or is scattered in thin layers over the rubbly surface of the chalk. The gravel itself contains beds of resorted chalk and sand and is much contorted, partly, perhaps, owing to the conditions of original deposition and partly to the solution of the contained and underlying chalk in later times. Sometimes only a thin upper soil covers the broken surface of the chalk.

This chalky gravel therefore behaves like the chalk in respect of the gradual removal of masses by the decomposition of the carbonate of lime of which it is largely made up, and the consequent formation of pipes and the crumpling up of the soil and subsoil sinking into the hollow places thus produced.

A knowledge of this is of first importance in all explorations such as those we have been conducting, for the appearance of previous disturbance is often due to these natural settlements, and sometimes the top of a pipe of the insoluble residuum of the gravel stands out above the corroded surface of the surrounding chalk in such a way as to produce the appearance of a tumulus undistinguishable on the surface from the sepulchral mounds among which it occurs.

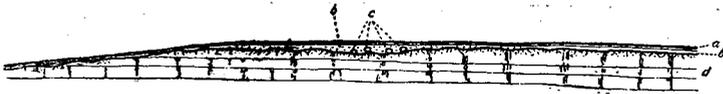
This geological horizon is apt in our district to give rise to a marked geographical feature. It generally extends in an undulating terrace running in bluffs and spurs far out towards the fens.

From Hare Park you look out to the north-west over the fenland and on the south-east to the hills which, capped with boulder clay, were, in primaeval times, covered with an impenetrable forest. No higher ground intervened between the "Beacon Hill" in front of Hare Park and Cambridge on the west, no other open country gave access to the north save that spread out before the watchmen there. No wonder that

every successive race has left traces on such a spot, but they are all memorials of the dead.

The tumulus now described is situated close to the east side of the "Street Way," 160 yards south of the Cambridge and Newmarket road.

Fig. 1.



For index see below, p. 318.

It was raised (Fig. 1) on a slight natural "slack" or terrace on the south slope of the spur which runs out near the end of the "Four Mile Course." Part of it extends over the rubbly chalk and part of it over an irregular pipy bed of sand with some gravel in places.

The material of which the mound was constructed took its character from the nature of the soil which was most easily procured over the immediately surrounding area.

First the surface soil was scraped up and heaped over the centre, then the rubbly chalk, which generally occurred next below the surface soil, and here and there the sandy gravel, which was also easily removed, was thrown on.

This distribution of the layers of different material gave rise to some doubts in the course of the excavation, as it was not always clear whether, for instance, we had reached the natural rubbly top of the chalk or were working in the artificially moved material of the mound.

However, as all the excavators were bent upon working out the story of the building of the mound as well as upon finding objects which might fix its date, these difficulties were got over.

Though probably intended to be circular, the form of the mound was oval, as the material had gravitated down hill to the S.W. both when it was originally heaped up, and by the action of the weather and agricultural operations ever since.

This is one of the sources of error in observing the forms of tumuli. By the gravitation of the material of the mound

down slope under the action of the weather or the plough, a round barrow sometimes assumes the form of a long barrow.

Another difficulty arises from the manner in which the soil is thrown on. The position of the interment is soon lost sight of and the earth of a mound or the stones of a cairn are heaped up where it can be most easily approached or the material most easily procured, so that the principal interment ceases to be central.

The original form of the ground was probably as shown in Fig. 1.

(a) surface soil.

(b) sand and gravel of very irregular occurrence.

(c) fox earth.

(d) chalk with (e) the top decomposed and rubbly.

On the less steeply inclined part of this slope the mound was raised by scraping off the surrounding surface and heaping it up over the principal interment (+) (Fig. 2), which was presumably that of a very young person, buried by inhumation, whose bones we found disturbed and partly destroyed by burrowing animals.

The first accumulation over the centre of the mound was the transported surface soil ( $a'$ ).

When the soil had been scraped from the surrounding area the chalk rubble ( $b'$ ) was at the surface and in its turn was carried on to the mound, raising it considerably.

The mound first had the appearance indicated in Fig. 2, where  $a'$  is the surface soil carried from the surrounding ground on to the mound.

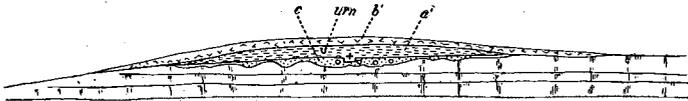


Fig. 2.

In the upper part of this there was deposited the urn ( $u$ ) containing the bones of children buried by cremation. All round the margin of the mound there were places where fires had been lighted, as shown by the burnt earth and layers of



to this removal of the original covering that the urn (*u*) was found at a depth of only 6 inches from the surface. Part of the chalk rubble (*b*) still flanks the mound, and thus we can, by reference to what we know has been going on, and our knowledge of the natural soil and rock, explain the existing anomalous position of some of the relics found in the mound.

We commenced operations by removing the surface soil over an area about 4 feet in breadth all round the apparent margin of the mound in order to ascertain the nature and depth of the artificial deposits (Fig. 4).

We left the margin along the northern edge and cut a trench straight across about 9 feet, where furthest, from the margin. We crossed two shallow irregular openings which had been run from N. to S. into the mound, but they were not carried in more than a few feet and were not dug down to the bottom of the made ground. Near the middle of this trench we found five large stones lying about 15 inches from the surface and below and around them a large quantity of burnt earth and charcoal. There were also a few bones of a very young pig, and, at a depth of from 2 feet to 2 feet 6 inches, my son took out of the sandy soil a bronze thimble ring very like some found else-



Fig. 5. Bronze thimble ring.

where with Roman remains (Fig. 5). A flint arrow head was found at the base of the surface soil above this spot.

We now pressed on the excavation from W. to E. in the N.W. quadrant and from N. to S. in the N.E. quadrant. Near the west margin there was much burnt earth and here the only fragment of pottery which could be referred to Roman type was found at a depth of 2 feet from the present surface. In the unburnt earth there were a good many fragments of bones of domestic animals, the canine of a cat, probably of the wild species, several pelvic bones of the common mole. A little west of the centre at a depth of 2 feet 6 inches we found two



Urn found in tumulus. (12 inches high.)

well made long scrapers, while in the surface soil east of the centre a scraper of the round type was found. Flint flakes and chips occurred here and there all through.

A little to the south-east of the centre of the mound the loose earth and sand indicated that there had been some excavation and hopes were raised that we had come upon a central interment, while the occurrence of a few unburnt human bones strengthened our expectations. Further digging proved that it was a fox earth, but that, when burrowing, the foxes had taken advantage of the more friable soil in which the body lay and had scattered the human bones and carried in parts of young pigs, sheep, and roe deer, for their cubs. This find was especially interesting as it is long since the roe deer (*Cervus capreolus*) was wild in this part of England. The skeleton of one of the cubs also was found in the earth. In the north section of the tumulus we found shells of the common mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) burnt as if they had formed part of the food consumed at the funeral feast.

There were no traces of metal except rust stains which may have been due to the decomposition of iron pyrites or haematite of which we found small lumps. One nail occurred in the earth. It may have been in a piece of the wood used for the fire or may have got in in later times by accident.

At last our care was rewarded by finding, a little south-west of the centre of the mound, a large British urn (Pl. XXIX. p. 321), full of burnt human bones. The top of the urn was only some 6 inches below the present surface of the ground and it was crushed flat, so that, whereas it had stood some 12 inches in height it was squeezed into a lenticular mass of broken pottery and bones not more than 4 inches thick. The bones seemed all to have belonged to children, the few teeth we found confirming this view, but how many children were deposited in this one urn after cremation we have not made out.

The urn has been very skilfully restored by Mr C. E. Gray, First Attendant in the Sedgwick Museum, and is of a well-known type referred to the Bronze Age.

Fragments of another British urn occurred in the soil near the fox earth.

We are able to give a figure of a small urn of the same type as the larger more finished one now found by us. It was obtained by Mr A. G. Wright "from a tumulus west of Hare Park" and given many years ago to Professor Hughes, who has handed it over to Mr Brodrick Cloete.

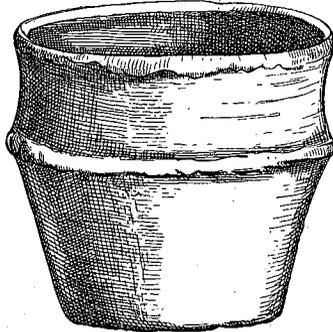


Fig. 6. Urn found in tumulus west of Hare Park, 1875. (4 inches high.)

Previous explorations carried on over the adjoining area confirm the inference drawn from smaller evidence in the case before us. In the Proceedings of the Society will be found short notices of excavations made at different times at Hare Park and on Newmarket Heath.

When earthenware and other objects of Roman type were found it was assumed that Romans put them there, but further experience leads us to suggest a different interpretation of the facts.

Those who have seen funerals in Wales toiling along ancient routes, although a good and shorter road may have been constructed, and know that the sentiment in respect of this is so strong that there is no proof so convincing as to rights of way, etc., or one so universally admitted in the local law courts, as evidence that funerals have passed that way. If we turn to Ireland and see the dead buried by the walls of an ancient church which has been a ruin for centuries, we have the same story. The costume of the people has changed and the coins, and the vessels from which refreshment is offered to all comers, may be different, but the essential customs and ceremonies are retained: they must be buried with their forefathers, and must be carried along the path their forefathers trod.

When this country became Romanised and adopted Roman domestic appliances and Roman habits, the natives still buried their dead on the high places where the ashes of their forefathers lay, but newly imported vessels, whether Roman or earlier, were used instead of the rude half-baked urns of former ages—for receiving the ashes of the dead or the funeral feast or other rites and customs of sepulture.

This seems to me to be a simpler explanation of our finding in the same tumuli at Hare Park urns of the character referred to the Bronze Age and vessels of a newer type, sometimes in fragments only and sometimes whole.

It is extremely improbable that the Romans would regard the burying places of the natives with any sentiment, but it seems quite in accord with what we know of the conservatism of all races in respect of funeral rites, that the natives should continue to bury in the same way and on the same spot long after they had adopted the domestic appliances of their conquerors, or such as had been introduced by trade. For we are apt to forget that there was much trade with the continent long before the Romans came, and it is almost incredible that some ware of a better class, possibly showing a strong likeness to that in common use in the south of Europe, should not have been imported and widely used.

At Hare Park and in many other places we have the same difficulty in respect of the Teutonic burying places also. We find abundant remains of Roman type in cemeteries of Saxon age. We used to say that the Teutonic newcomers buried in the graveyards of the natives. It is less improbable in this case than in that of the Romans and pre-Roman people, for many of the Teutonic invaders found here people of their own blood and tongue, who had adopted and were using the superior ware of Roman origin—and we may account for the Roman type of pottery and ornaments and other appliances in Saxon cemeteries by supposing that the same tribe continued to bury, and changed their ware, etc., borrowing from the Romanised natives, or that the newcomers buried with Teutonic fashions in graveyards where their kinsfolk who had come over earlier had buried with accessories derived originally from the Romans.

It seems as if this question might be answered by more careful observation of the relation of each type to the other in a sufficiently large number of what have been looked upon as mixed Roman and Saxon cemeteries.

Such speculations make us feel that our present nomenclature is not quite safe. We cannot speak of the pre-Roman inhabitants as British when we know that in East Anglia a large number were Teutonic, nor is it satisfactory to speak of Saxon, except as a chronological term, when we know that many of those whose remains we have found on Allington Hill were Danish, and those near Wilbraham were German, while the Romanised natives were driven further towards the Devil's Dyke.

May we hope to learn some day that here and there a *modus vivendi* had been arrived at between these fierce and hostile tribes, and be able to trace some of their old boundary lines.

SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Monday, 1 June, 1908.

Dr VENN, President, in the Chair.

The officers of the Society were elected for the ensuing year.

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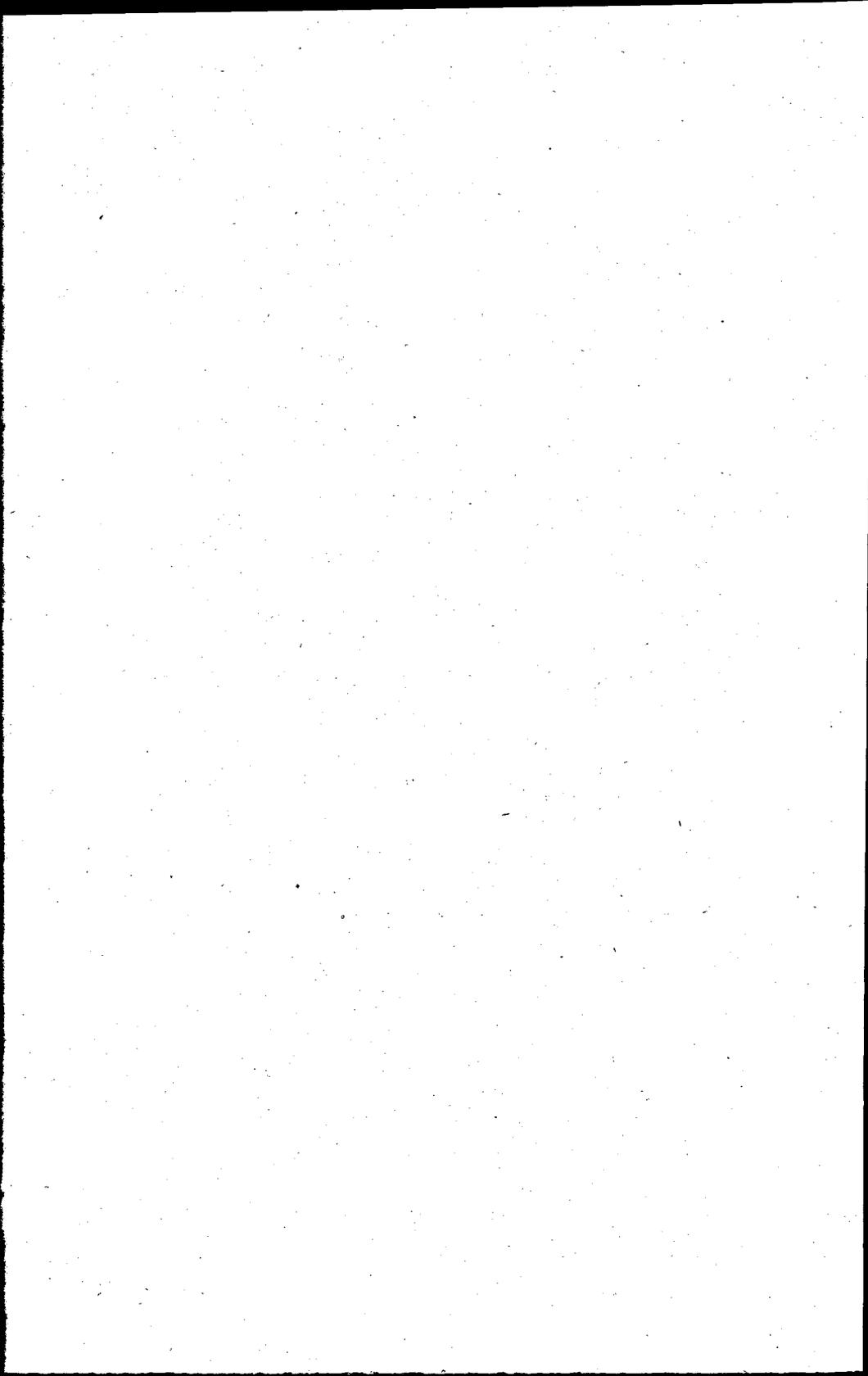
AUDITORS.

ALDERMAN GEORGE KETT.

JAMES BENNET PEACE, M.A., Emmanuel College.

A paper illustrated by lantern slides was then read by  
T. D. ATKINSON, Esq.,

ON SOME POINTS IN ELY CATHEDRAL.



## INDEX

- Accounts, 1905, 19; 1906, 132  
 Adams, E. T., exhibits a ring dial, 248  
 Allix, C. P., and Prof. Hughes, on a  
 Tumulus recently explored on New-  
 market Heath, 314  
 Amulets from Cairo, &c., 248  
 Annual Report, 1905-6, 1; 1906-7, 121  
 Antwerp Celebration, The Society's  
 Address, 263  
 Armilla, gold, found in Grunty Fen,  
 96  
 Arretine Vase, The, in the Archaeo-  
 logical Museum, 107  
 Artistic Handicrafts, lecture on the  
 decay of, 95  
 Atkinson, T. D., on some points in  
 Ely Cathedral, 325
- Babraham Church, wall-painting in,  
 253  
 Barton, excavations at, 296  
 Bateson, Mary, vote of condolence on  
 the death of, 94  
 Belgic Congress, Report of the Society's  
 delegate, 261  
 Benton, G. Montagu, fourteenth cen-  
 tury wall-painting in Lolworth  
 Church, representing the incredulity  
 of St Thomas, 148  
 — Stone coffins and skeletons dis-  
 covered at Thetford, Norfolk, 249  
 Bit, carpenter's, 248  
 Black jack, pewter-rimmed, 247  
 Boat-Hook, iron, 248  
 Bond, F. Bligh, on the Rood Screens  
 in Cambridgeshire, 285
- Bos longifrons*, bones of, excavated in  
 King's Lane, 137  
 Bottle, glass wine, 247  
 Bretagne, La, et sa littérature, lecture,  
 141  
 Broad-sides, 248
- Cambridge, barn in Shelley Row, 142  
 — Caricatures, 313  
 — Dual origin of the town of, 141  
 — King's Hall, on the part of King's  
 Hall lately restored to Trinity Col-  
 lege, 243  
 — King's Lane, excavations in, 133  
 — Engraving of old houses on  
 King's Parade, 247  
 — Mantelpiece at Old Cross Keys  
 Inn, 143; in Sussum's Yard, 143  
 — Old Red Lion, 143  
 — Old Three Tuns Inn, 142  
 — Outside Trumpington Gates, 147  
 — St Benedict's Church, two book-  
 covers, with chains, found in the  
 tower, 241  
 — Tombstone in St Clement's  
 Churchyard, 143  
 Cambridgeshire Maps, II., 152  
 — Rood Screens, 285  
 Carmelites, burying ground of the, 139  
 Carøe, W. D., on the part of King's  
 Hall lately restored to Trinity Col-  
 lege, 243  
 Castle Hedingham, excursion to, 127  
 Catling, H. D., Cambridge Caricatures,  
 313  
 Celts, bronze, found at Grunty Fen, 103

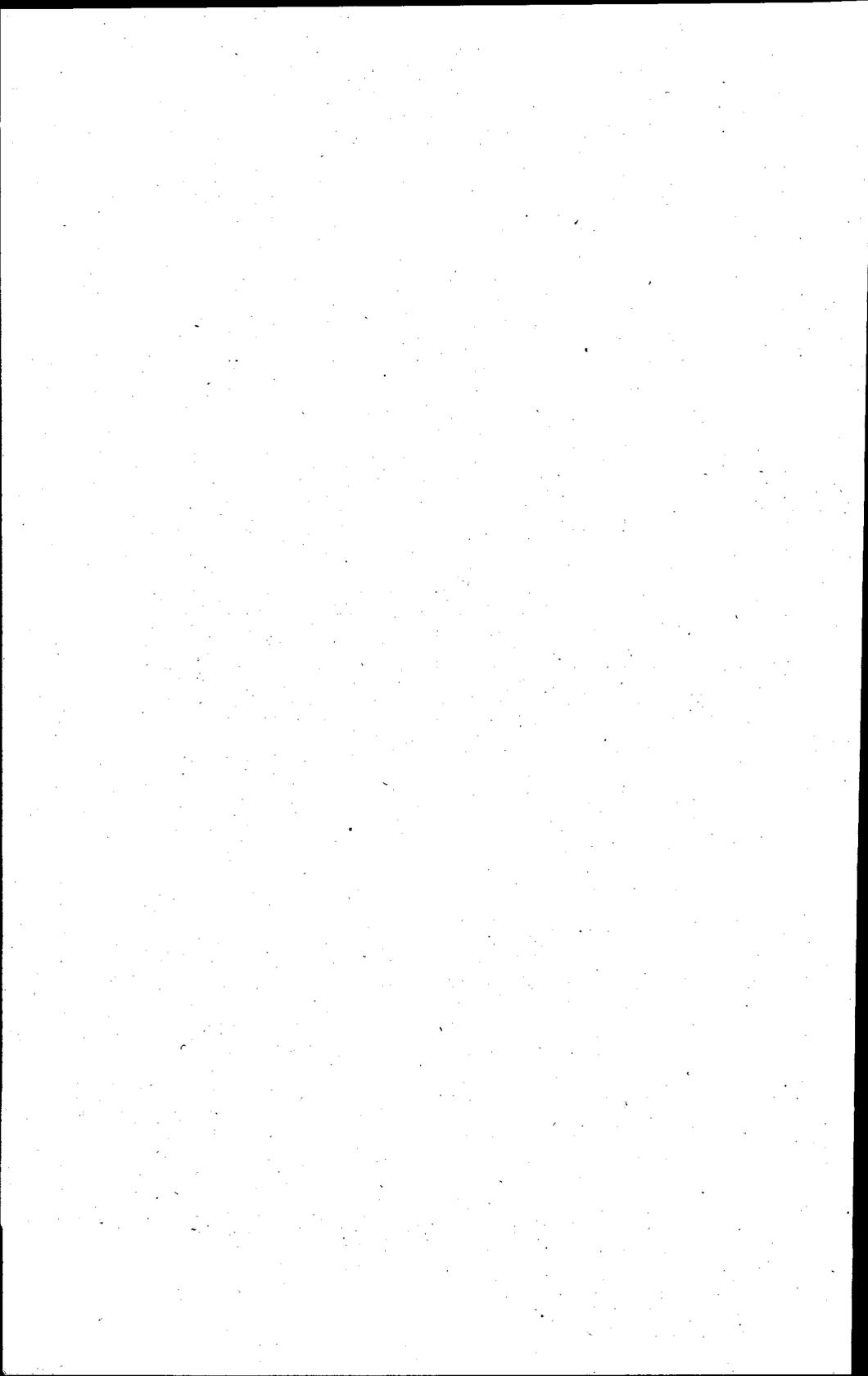
- Chained Books, 241  
 Cherryhinton, skeletons recently found at the "War Ditches," 267  
 Clark, J. W., on two bookcovers, with chains, found in the tower of St Benedict's Church, 241  
 — and J. E. Foster, the Senate House Yard and early Cambridge Stationers, 240  
 Coins found in the Cam, 261
- Dancing Towers of Italy and India, 105  
 Deck, Isaac, original account of the Gold Armilla discovered in Grunty Fen, 97  
 Dial, Ring, 248  
 Discs, Bone, 247  
 Durham, Miss, Serb and Albanian in the Balkans, 231
- Earith Bulwarks, excavations at, 257  
 Ely Cathedral, on some points in, 325  
 Ely, Vetus Liber Archidiaconatus Eliensis, 95  
 Exchange of Publications, 8, 127  
 Excursions, 13, 127, 142
- Finger-Ring, 247  
 Firehooks, 235  
 Fordham, H. G., Cartography of the Provinces of France, 1570-1757, 152  
 — Cambridgeshire Maps, II., 152  
 Foster, J. E., *see* Clark, J. W.  
 Fowlmere, historical notes on, 94  
 — the Round Moat at, 114  
 France, Cartography of the Provinces of, 1570-1757, 152
- Gloves, 248  
 Gray, Arthur, note on the graffiti, 136  
 — The dual origin of the town of Cambridge, 141  
 Gray, T. D., a wall-painting in Babraham Church, 253  
 Grunty Fen, Gold Armilla found in, 96  
 — Bronze celts found at, 103
- Haddon, A. C., Morning Star Ceremony of the Pawnee, 113  
 — exhibits amulets from Cairo, &c., 248  
 Halstead, excursion to, 127  
 Hauxton Mill, finger-ring found at, 247  
 Herculaneum, 25  
 Hubbard, A. J., Neolithic Dewponds, 95  
 Hubbard, G., Neolithic Man in the Hills and Plains, 95  
 Hügel, Baron A. von, Some notes on the Gold Armilla found in Grunty Fen, 96  
 — recent additions to Museum described and exhibited, 144, 247  
 Hughes, T. McKenny, Herculaneum, 25  
 — on the excavations in King's Lane, 133  
 — exhibition and description of objects of antiquarian interest, 243  
 — *see* Allix, C. P.  
 Human remains excavated in King's Lane, 139
- Keynes, G. L., and H. G. Evelyn White, excavations at Earith bulwarks, 257  
 Kurdistan, highlands of, lecture, 105
- Le Braz, Mons., La Bretagne et sa littérature, lecture, 141  
 Lolworth Church, fourteenth century wall-painting representing the incredulity of St Thomas, 148  
 London, visit to, 13  
 Lord's Bridge, contents of a Tumulus excavated at, 273
- Mainz, vases by Cn. Ateius found at, 112  
 Mantelpiece at Old Cross Keys Inn, 143  
 — in Sussum's Yard, 143  
 Maplestead, Little, excursion to, 127  
 Members elected, 1905-6, 17; 1906-7, 131  
 Mesopotamia, Plains of, lecture, 105

- Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Appeal for a New Museum, 20  
 — recent additions, 12, 129, 144, 247
- Neolithic Dewponds, 95  
 — Man in the Hills and Plains, 95
- Newmarket Heath, Tumulus on, 314
- Officers elected, 106, 325
- Papers read Oct. 1905—May 1906, list, 9; Oct. 1906—May 1907, 123
- Parsons, *Miss*, exhibits tinder pouch from Thibet, 248
- Pawnee, Morning Star Ceremony of the, 113
- Pearson, J. B., on a Slinger's leaden bullet, 140
- Pepys, Samuel, at the Three Tuns Inn, 142
- Photographic Record, Secretary's Report, 1905, 16; 1906, 129
- Pick, S. Perkins, lecture on the Decay of Artistic Handicrafts, 95
- Pistols, steel tinder, 247
- Pontus, forests of, lecture, 105
- Portraits, additions to the collection of, 126  
 — exhibition of, 313
- Potsherds excavated in King's Lane, 137; in Regent Street, 243
- Pouch, tinder, from Thibet, 248
- Redfern, W. B., exhibits by, 24, 247
- Rings, ecclesiastical silver, 247
- Rings under the eaves of old houses, 232
- Rood Screens in Cambridgeshire, 285
- Sebley, F. J., exhibits coins, 261
- Senate House Yard and early Cambridge Stationers, 240
- Serb and Albanian in the Balkans, 231
- Slinger's leaden bullet from Nauportus, 140
- Stokes, H. P., Cambridge outside Trumpington Gates before the foundation of Peterhouse, 147
- Stokes, H. P., notes on Stoky's almshouses, 246
- Stokys, Matthew, almshouses, 244; brass plate once attached to, 244
- Stone coffins and skeletons found at Thetford, Norfolk, 249
- Sykes, M., the Plains of Mesopotamia, the Forests of Pontus, and the Highlands of Kurdistan, 105
- Thatchhook, 239
- Thetford, Norfolk, stone coffins and skeletons discovered at, 249
- Thomas, *St*, fourteenth century wall-painting representing the incredulity of, 148
- Tongs, 247
- Tumulus on Newmarket Heath, 314
- Turpin, Dick, at the Three Tuns Inn, 142
- Vases by Cn. Ateius found at Mainz, 112
- Venetian glass excavated in King's Lane, 137
- Vesuvius, photograph, 32
- Walker, F. G., exhibits by, 248  
 — Skeletons recently found at the "War Ditches," Cherryhinton, 267  
 — On the contents of a Tumulus excavated at Lord's Bridge, 273  
 — Report on excavations at Barton, 296
- Walters, H. B., the Arretine Vase in the Cambridge Archaeological Museum, 107
- Wherry, G. E., Rings under the eaves of old houses, 232
- Wherry, *Mrs*, Dancing Towers of Italy and India, 105
- White, C. H. Evelyn, *Vetus Liber Archidiaconatus Eliensis*, 95
- White, H. G. Evelyn, *see* Keynes, G. L.
- Yorke, A. C., Historical notes on Fowlmere, 94  
 — the Round Moat at Fowlmere, 114

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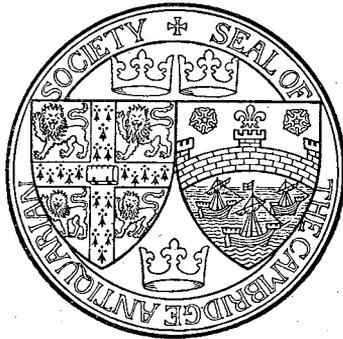
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## CONTENTS

1906—1907.

(No. XLVIII.)

	PAGE
Sixty-sixth Annual Report (for 1905—6) . . . . .	1
Appeal for New Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology . . . . .	20
Herculaneum. (With one Figure in the text and Plate I.) By Professor HUGHES . . . . .	25
Historical Notes on Fowlmere. By Rev. ALEXANDER CAMPBELL YORKE . . . . .	94
The Decay of Artistic Handicrafts. By S. PERKINS PICK, F.R.I.B.A. . . . .	95
(1) Neolithic Dewponds. (2) Neolithic Man in the Hills and Plains. By Messrs A. J. and G. HUBBARD . . . . .	95
Vetus Liber Archidiaconatus Eliensis. By Rev. C. H. EVELYN WHITE . . . . .	95
Some Notes on the Gold Armilla found in Grunty Fen, together with Mr Isaac Deck's original account of its discovery in 1844. (With one Figure in the text and Plates II, III.) By Baron A. VON HÜGEL . . . . .	96
The Dancing Towers of Italy and India. By Mrs WHERRY . . . . .	105
The Plains of Mesopotamia, the Forests of Pontus, and the Highlands of Kurdistan. By Capt. MARK SYKES . . . . .	105
Sixty-seventh Annual General Meeting . . . . .	106
The Arretine Vase in the Cambridge Archaeological Museum. (With Plates IV, V.) By H. B. WALTERS, Esq. . . . .	107
The Morning Star Ceremony of the Pawnee. By A. C. HADDON, Sc.D., F.R.S. . . . .	113
The Round Moat at Fowlmere. (With one Figure in the text.) By Rev. A. C. YORKE . . . . .	114

1907.

(No. XLIX.)

	PAGE
Sixty-seventh Annual Report (for 1906—7) . . . . .	121
On the Excavations in King's Lane. (With one Figure in the text and Plate VI.) By Professor HUGHES . . . . .	133
1. A slinger's leaden bullet from Nauportus (Tacitus, <i>Ann.</i> i. 20) now Oberlaibach, Carniola. 2. On the legend of the Argo as connected with the same locality. By Rev. J. B. PEARSON, D.D. . . . .	140
The Dual Origin of the Town of Cambridge. By ARTHUR GRAY, M.A. . . . .	141
La Bretagne et sa Littérature. By Mons. LE BRAZ . . . . .	141
Excursion round Old Cambridge. (With Plates VII—X.) . . . . .	142
Recent additions to the Museum. By Baron A. VON HÜGEL . . . . .	144

1908.

(No. L.)

Cambridge outside Trumpington Gates before the foundation of Peterhouse. By Rev. H. P. STOKES, LL.D. . . . .	147
A Fourteenth Century Wall-Painting in Lolworth Church, representing the Incredulity of S. Thomas. (With Plates XI and XII.) By G. MONTAGU BENTON . . . . .	148
I. The Cartography of the Province of France, 1570—1757. II. Cambridgeshire Maps. II. Maps of the Nineteenth Century. (With four Figures in the text.) By Mr H. G. FORDHAM . . . . .	152
Serb and Albanian in the Balkans. By Miss DURHAM . . . . .	231
The Rings under the Eaves of Old Houses. (With four Figures in the text.) By G. E. WHERRY, M.A., M.C. . . . .	232
The Senate House Yard and early Cambridge Stationers. By J. W. CLARK, M.A., and J. E. FOSTER, M.A. . . . .	240
On two Bookcovers, with chains, found in the Tower of St Benedict's Church, Cambridge. (With Plate XIII.) By J. W. CLARK, M.A. . . . .	241
On the part of King's Hall lately restored to Trinity College. By W. D. CARÔE, M.A. . . . .	243
Open Meeting . . . . .	243
Stone Coffins and Skeletons discovered at Thetford, Norfolk. (With Plate XIV.) By G. MONTAGU BENTON . . . . .	249
A Wall-Painting in Babraham Church. (With Plate XV.) By Rev. T. D. GRAY, M.A. . . . .	253

CONTENTS

vii

	PAGE
Excavations at Earith Bulwarks. (With one Figure in the text.) By G. L. KEYNES and H. G. EVELYN WHITE . . . . .	257
Report of the Belgic Congress . . . . .	261
Antwerp Celebration . . . . .	263

1908.

(No. LI.)

(1) Skeletons recently found at the "War Ditches," Cherryhinton. (2) On the Contents of a Tumulus excavated at Lord's Bridge, near Cambridge. (With seven Figures in the text and Plates XVI— XVIII.) By Rev. F. G. WALKER, M.A. . . . .	267
On the Rood Screens in Cambridgeshire. (With three Figures in the text and Plates XIX, XX.) By F. BLIGH BOND, Esq., F.R.I.B.A. . . . .	285
Report on the Excavations at Barton. (With two Figures in the text and Plates XXI—XXVIII.) By Rev. F. G. WALKER, M.A. . . . .	296
Exhibition of Portraits and of Cambridge Caricatures . . . . .	313
On a Tumulus recently explored on Newmarket Heath. (With six Figures in the text and Plate XXIX.) By C. P. ALLIX, M.A., and Prof. HUGHES . . . . .	314
Sixty-Eighth Annual General Meeting . . . . .	325
<hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/>	
General Index to Vol. XII . . . . .	327

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	PAGE
Plate I. Vesuvius and the surrounding Volcanic Region . . . . .	32
Pianta di Ercolano . . . . .	38
Plate II. Gold armilla from Grunty Fen, Cambridgeshire, 1844 . . . . .	101
"  III. Bronze celts found with gold armilla. Grunty Fen, Cambridgeshire, 1844 . . . . .	103
"  IV. The Arretine Vase in the Archaeological Museum, Cambridge . . . . .	107
"  V. Vases by Cn. Ateius found at Mainz . . . . .	112
Round Moat, Fowlmere, and Excavations : October, 1906 . . . . .	116
Excavations in King's Lane . . . . .	134
Plate VI. . . . .	136
"  VII. The Old Three Tuns Inn, Cambridge . . . . .	142
"  VIII. Mantelpiece at Old Cross Keys Inn, Cambridge . . . . .	143
"  IX. Tombstone in St Clement's Churchyard, Cambridge . . . . .	143
"  X. Mantelpiece at No. 3 Sussum's Yard. Part of Old Red Lion Inn, Cambridge . . . . .	143
"  XI. Lolworth Church, Cambridgeshire. Fig. 1, Capital—North arcade; fig. 2, The Nave, looking N.W., showing position of painting (indicated by a x) . . . . .	148
"  XII. Wall-painting representing the Incredulity of S. Thomas. 14th century. Lolworth Church, Cambridgeshire . . . . .	149
Map I. England and Wales . . . . .	153
"  II. Cambridgeshire . . . . .	157
"  III. " . . . . .	165
"  IV. " . . . . .	172
Old house with rings in Trumpington Street . . . . .	233
Old house with rings in Bene't Street . . . . .	233
Firehooks at Linton . . . . .	235
Firehook ready for action on a three-wheeled carriage . . . . .	239

	PAGE
Plate XIII. Chained books found in the Church of S. Benedict, Cambridge . . . . .	241
„ XIV. Stone Coffin discovered at Thetford, July, 1907 (figs. 1, 2) . . . . .	250
„ XV. . . . .	254
Excavations at Earith Bulwarks . . . . .	257
“ War Ditches,” Cherryhinton (fig. 1) . . . . .	268
Plate XVI. Pot found with skeleton, “ War Ditches,” Cherryhinton . . . . .	270
Map of country round Lord’s Bridge. Roman finds marked + (fig. 1) . . . . .	274
Roman tumulus at Lord’s Bridge, Harlton, near Cambridge; section through centre of 1907 excavation (fig. 2) . . . . .	275
Plate XVII. Iron shackles found at Lord’s Bridge, near Cambridge, 1817 . . . . .	277
„ XVIII. Iron fire-dogs found at Lord’s Bridge, near Cambridge, 1817 . . . . .	277
Coffin covered in with large stones and gault pressed down into a solid surface (fig. 3) ; position of bones in coffin (fig. 4) . . . . .	278
Bone hair pins (fig. 5) . . . . .	280
Fig. 6 . . . . .	283
Plate XIX. Bottisham. Triple arcaded rood screen in stone, and oak parclose to south chapel. Balsham. Part of west face of rood screen shewing projecting canopy . . . . .	288
Triplow. Elevation of XIV cent. rood screen. (Shewing the triple arcade in oak.) (Fig. 1.) . . . . .	289
Gamlingay. Traceried panels of Loft—now at the west end of church (fig. 2) . . . . .	292
Fragment of canopy-work formerly in Madingley or Histon Church (demolished)—now in University Museum of Archaeology at Cambridge (fig. 3) . . . . .	294
Plate XX. Balsham. East side of rood screen shewing chancel stalls returned on north side. Over. East side of rood screen shewing the vaulting . . . . .	294
Barton moats, 1908 (fig. 1) . . . . .	298
„ „ (fig. 2) . . . . .	301
Plate XXI. Carved hollow bones and bone pin (late Celtic or Roman), and bone scoop . . . . .	303
„ XXII. Roman horseshoe and knives; pot from hearth, 9 inches across rim, 7 inches high, with ordinary type Roman pot for comparison . . . . .	304
„ XXIII. 1. Bronze buckle, late Celtic. 2. Roman stylus, iron. 3. Roman key, iron. 4. Bronze buckle, Saxon. 5. Norman spur . . . . .	304
„ XXIV. Hones. Scale $\frac{2}{3}$ actual size . . . . .	304

	PAGE
Plate XXV. Bronze and iron nails . . . . .	305
„ XXVI. Bones cut with knives . . . . .	308
„ XXVII. Bones gnawed by animals . . . . .	308
„ XXVIII. Barton Moats. Section across Black Ash Ditch . . . . .	309
Fig. 1 . . . . .	317
Fig. 2 . . . . .	318
Fig. 3 . . . . .	319
Plan of tumulus opened near Hare Park, June 25-28, 1906 (fig. 4) . . . . .	319
Bronze thimble ring (fig. 5) . . . . .	320
Plate XXIX. Urn found in tumulus. (12 inches high.) . . . . .	321
Urn found in tumulus west of Hare Park, 1875 (4 inches high). (Fig. 6.) . . . . .	322

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# CONTENTS

## OF PROCEEDINGS, No. LI.

VOL. XII. (NEW SERIES, VOL. VI.) No. 4.

	PAGE
(1) Skeletons recently found at the "War Ditches," Cherryhinton.	
(2) On the Contents of a Tumulus excavated at Lord's Bridge, near Cambridge. (With seven Figures in the text and Plates XVI—XVIII.) By Rev. F. G. WALKER, M.A. . . . .	267
On the Rood Screens in Cambridgeshire. (With three Figures in the text and Plates XIX, XX.) By F. BLIGH BOND, Esq., F.R.I.B.A. . .	285
Report on the Excavations at Barton. (With two Figures in the text and Plates XXI—XXVIII.) By Rev. F. G. WALKER, M.A. . . .	296
Exhibition of Portraits and of Cambridge Caricatures . . . . .	313
On a Tumulus recently explored on Newmarket Heath. (With six Figures in the text and Plate XXIX.) By C. P. ALLIX, M.A., and Prof. HUGHES . . . . .	314
Sixty-Eighth Annual General Meeting . . . . .	325
General Index to Vol. XII. . . . .	327