

Minor Monuments and Lesser Antiquities of Derbysshire.

KING'S NEWTON.

An alarming scare was abroad during the later weeks of 1937, to the effect that the Shardlow District Council were putting forward a scheme of road-widening through the village of King's Newton which would entail the entire destruction of the row of old-fashioned cottages which has hitherto been one of its chief characteristics. There was immediate and strenuous opposition and this Society took its share. The Shardlow Council took a wise course and withdrew the proposals. A letter was received acknowledging the part taken by the Society. In the midst of so much destruction of old and picturesque things the decision of the authority concerned is encouraging.

FILLYFORD BRIDGE.

A new line of road has recently been made crossing the river Wye at Haddon and eliminating an awkward approach to Fillyford Bridge. By this alteration the old bridge is now within the Duke of Rutland's boundary, and the new wall separates it from the highway. It is well seen, however, and the passer-by who does not know its history will wonder what it means, as no approach exists. It is now just an interesting remainder. In years to come it will be a rather curious piece of evidence concerning this present epoch of road-ramp. The bridge is not very ancient, probably eighteenth or early nineteenth century, but it attains some interest through this retirement from office.

During excavations for the new road a very definite

and rudely metalled track was found running straight to a point beside the old bridge where a ford may easily be imagined. In fact the surveyor in charge of the work showed me some indications of a ford. The track was of the usual pack-horse width and it was bound by a curb on each side of stones roughly a foot, more or less, in each dimension, and filled between by gravel and rubble. It pointed westward to the Youlgreave and Monyash country, and eastward to Beeley Moor above Rowsley, where several old stone guide-posts have been recorded by the present writer in recent Journals. No doubt the lead-carrying trains of pack-ponies went this way to and from Chesterfield.