

tinued existence. Our country has many Roman sites still awaiting the pick and spade but none more promising than Silchester, and it is a reproach to English archæology that so little has yet been done to make them yield the harvest of knowledge which they would undoubtedly afford. That the site of Silchester ought to be completely and systematically excavated is a point upon which English antiquaries have for some time being agreed ; but either from unwillingness to face so large an undertaking, or the question of expense, or some such cause, no definite plan has yet being brought forward. The complete excavation of a site of a hundred acres is of course a stupendous work, and the large size of the area as seen from the walls is enough to dishearten a good many people. If, however, we give way to such feelings, Silchester will never be excavated at all, and even if it will take more than one man's lifetime to do it thoroughly, that is no reason why the work begun by Mr. Joyce should not be systematically resumed and carried on unflinchingly year after year."

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THE DISCOVERY OF AN ANCIENT CEMETERY AT READING.—The finding of a number of skeletons in a field on the north side of the King's Road, almost immediately opposite the inn known as the "Jack-of-both-Sides," has naturally created considerable curiosity. The discovery was made during the opening of trenches for building purposes, at a site belonging to the Messrs. Bottrill, builders, who, in order that any discovered relics should be preserved for the Museum, permitted Dr. Stevens to be present while the operations were going on. The result was the bringing to light of a number of skeletons of various ages, and at different levels, with a few relics of great archæological interest, on account of their having been placed in the graves with the dead. The operations extended over several weeks, during which remains of no less than thirty-six bodies were exhumed. It is not intended at this moment to do more than introduce the discovery to the knowledge of the Berks Archæological and Architectural Society, as a paper containing the various particulars, with a summary, from the character of the remains, bearing reference to the probable people and period to which the Cemetery may be attributed, will appear in a future issue of this publication.