

V. On the left hand of Kent-street in the Road to London, in the Garden ground, (which was a Roman Military Way, and is commonly made use of upon an extraordinary Cavalcade, as it was particularly upon the Entrance of King Charles II. at his Return from Holland, and at such time is lay'd open,) they have found in digging several Roman Antiquities, with many of their Coyns both in Silver and Brass, some of which were much esteem'd by the Worthy Mr. Charlton. I have seen many of these Antiquities myself, by the favour of my good Friend Mr. John Cannop, such as Glass-bottles with a Liquor in them, and divers old Roman Utensils.

VI. To these must be added a great many Roman Antiquities that were found in the Grounds of Mr. Ewer at Clapham in digging for Gravel. They are still in being, and have been view'd by Mr. John Kemp, who as he is a great Judge in these Affairs, so he owns that some of them are extraordinary, and such as he had not seen before.

I have been the more particular on this Subject, to shew that the Romans were much and had their several Stations in Surrey, and left many Remains behind them for future Ages to admire.

And now I shall relate to you the manner of the Roman Approaches nearer to London. For they always took care to secure all behind them by their several Camps or Stations on their new made Military-ways. These led along Kent-street, on the left Hand leading to London, and pointed directly to Dowgate, now so call'd, through an Arch since built by the Bishop of Winchester at his Stayres, which to this day is called Stone-street, and came directly out of Surrey.

'Twas at this very place (as I take it) that the Roman Legions forded over the River of Thames, first the Horse, and then the Foot, which might not then take them up to the Shoulders. And this they might attempt (as we may conjecture) when the Tide was first coming in, they then making an Angle, and directing their Course against the stream of the River. When they came to the middle of the stream, the Tide drove them to their intended Landing Place, which was Dowgate. For you must suppose the River was much wider, and consequently much shallower than it is now, there being then no Wharf, Key, nor Bridge, but a smooth Sand to land upon. Neither was there at that time any Mud, such as is now caused by Vessels and Timber lying on the Shore.

Afterwards it happened that Ferrys were made use of on that Part of the River, altho' they have been discontinued for some Hundreds of Years past. For the Sands are in many