In the collection of a Rev. William Goodall (1757-1844), master of Dinton Hall, which he assumed by marriage to Rebecca Vanhattem, who inherited the hall. Goodall was an amateur painter:

Here also may still be seen one of those shoes (its fellow being preserved in the Ashmoleian Museum at Oxford) worn by John Bigg, the Dinton Hermit; an old man who, having officiated as a clerk or secretary to Simon Mayne, the regicide, is described as a native of Dinton, and lived during many years, in the latter part of his life, in a hut or cave, of which the site is still pointed out, south-west of the Hall (though he is likewise reported to have retreated, during part of the Summer months, to the woods near Kimble); and the identical shoe has been engraven and published, as worn by Bigg, who has over his shoulders a loose cloak or coat, "all o'er coarsely patched with different coloured pieces." Mr. Grubb of Horsenden, a neighbouring parish, told Hearne, the Antiquarian, that he well remembered the Hermit; and Sir Thomas Lee of Hartwell, informed him that, when a little boy, he had often been frightened by him. In a letter from Hearne, dated Oxon, 12 Feb. 1712-13, addressed to Browne Willis, is the following account: "The shoe is vastly large, made up of about a thousand pieces of leather. It belonged to John Bigg, who was clerk to Judge Mayne, one of the Judges who gave sentence upon King Cha. I. He lived in a cave under ground, had been a man of tolerable wealth, was looked upon as a pretty good scholar, and of no contemptible parts. Upon the Restoration, he grew melancholy, betook himself to a recluse life, made all his other cloaths in the same manner as the shoe, lived by begging, but never asked for any thing but leather, which he would immediately nail to his cloaths. He kept three bottles hanging at his girdle, one for strong beer, another for small beer, and the third for milk, which liquors used to be given, and sometimes brought to him, as was his other sustenance, notwithstanding he never asked for them." — "This shoe (adds Hearne) often put me in mind of the Roman Campagi, or military shoes of the inferior soldiers, which were made much in the same manner, excepting that the upper parts were uncovered, like the more ancient shoes, called Crepidae."

A portrait of Bigg was etched from a picture in the possession of the late Sir Scrope Bernard Morland, Bart, and represents the Hermit as a tall, robust, rather handsome man, with an open countenance, destitute of moroseness, severity, or vulgarity. He has on a sort of hood, or square horned cap, of apparently the same patched materials, as a loose short cloak, over his lower garments, which consist of a close dress, with a girdle or belt, on which are suspended two leather bottles, his right hand grasping a third, the left resting on a short three-pronged fork. He has trowsers or pantaloons not quite meeting his shoes, which latter have not been very accurately drawn in the plate. The inscription below the figure is chiefly copied from Hearne's letter to Willis, with some few dates and other particulars supplied from the Parish Register, before cited.