



Campion's threshing train with Burrell engine, 1912

This picture postcard, which shows the threshing tackle arriving at Strawberry Hill Farm, Knotting Green, bears on the reverse the words "Knotting Green 1912. My father - D F Lewis." The picture was presumably printed for use as a business card. Close examination of the original reveals a cast metal owner's nameplate on the boiler side bearing "Henry Campion, Bletsoe Beds", implying that Henry had purchased the engine new. The tarpaulin on the threshing drum bears the words "E ? Campion, Knotting Fox, implying that Henry's eldest son Edward later ran the threshing business under his own name from Knotting Fox, before moving the business to Bourne End Farm, Bletsoe. Subsequently, and probably following Edward's death in 1916, the business appears to have been sold to Chapman's of Rushden; a later version of this same picture postcard bears Chapman's name and address. The engine, a Burrell 7 NHP G.P. Traction S.C.C. No: 2250, built in 1899, was recovered from a scrap yard in the 1970's and fully restored. It is now named "Endurance" and is owned by Gary Olverton of Southampton.

EB95 (*Richard Campion*)