

demolition of our old  
Abbey, and all about  
it which is picturesque,  
to give place to a new  
Cathedral of heterogeneous  
design, but to the  
"Holy Well" of the name  
of Ipswell. The plot  
of ground on which this  
is situated is now in  
the market for building  
sites. The well however  
is in a very dilapidated  
condition, & I fear we have  
no one here who would buy  
the plot for the sake of  
preserving what remains of it.

PR Box 1/H1

The Grange,  
St. Albans.

7 Nov. 1857

My dear Sir

I thank you very  
much for the splendid  
work "Excavations  
in Cranborne Chase"  
which you have been  
kind enough to send  
to me. It is a most  
interesting account  
& of great value for the  
particular representation

of the objects found,  
in the fine series of plates.

Dr. Francis Galton  
mentioned, at the last  
meeting of our Scientific  
Societies Committee,  
that you would like  
information about any  
ancient remains. There,  
at St. Albans, they abound,  
as of course you well know,  
but I am not sure that  
it is generally known that  
we have buried, I believe  
the only Roman Amphitheatre  
in this county. It is

on the site of the Earl  
of Perulam, almost in  
the centre of the area  
which ancient Perulam  
occupied. Some years  
ago, I believe, the Earl of  
Perulam declined to have  
it opened. A portion yet,  
one above ground, has  
now disappeared, & in the  
now ploughed fields there is  
nothing to indicate its  
position.

We are just now  
threatened with another  
act of vandalism. I  
am not alluding to the

PR Box 1 / H1

I send you a few  
pamphlets which may  
perhaps interest you,  
especially W. Raven's  
account of excavations  
of a Roman Villa near  
Kitchin. I also  
enclose (within this)  
a couple of sketches of  
my own, of Cromlechs  
& a circle of stones.  
I have just copied  
them roughly from my  
sketch book. I have  
seen two more somewhat  
similar which I will

copy for you if you care  
to have them, & I  
should be pleased to  
send you sketches of any  
pre-historic ~~remains~~  
remains I may come  
across in my wanderings  
in this country. I mean  
or to let you know if  
I find any not marked  
on the 1 inch Ordnance map.  
The stone-circle at St. Key  
is about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (i.e.  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile)  
S. of "e" in "Burley Moor"  
on map of New Series.  
The tower was built as a shooting-box.

I should like to  
get our Hertfordshire  
Natural History Society  
to catalogue all pre-  
historic remains in our  
county. We include  
Pre-historic Archaeology  
in our investigations.

I am

Yours truly  
John H. Minton

Lieut.-General Pitt Rivers  
D.C., F.R.S., &c.