

33 Gladstone Road
Boscombe
Bournemouth

L475

Mar. 26. 1888.

Dear Sir

Some time since I wrote you
re Roman British Coins found
at Selborne, since then I have
found fuller particulars, which
no doubt would be interesting
to you, and are as follows —
"Selborne. — Many coins and other Roman-
British antiquities have, at various
times, been discovered in this parish;
but perhaps the most remarkable of
these discoveries was that made when,
on Oct 30. 1873. Two earthenware pots
of the same form and pear shaped,
with a base of the interior diameter
of $3\frac{1}{2}$ "⁹, and at the height of 8" from the
ground of the maximum diameter of
a foot, were dug up in Blackmoor
Park, where they had been buried;

at the distance of two feet from the
ground, for 16 centuries. The covers
are gone, and the upper parts are broken
but originally the pots must have
been more than a foot in height.
They were filled with coins of various
kinds, sizes, and qualities, to the number
of 29,802; the largest are generally
denarii — not of silver, but of a mixed
base metal, which passed currently
for silver under the Lower Roman
Empire; and the rest — sometimes of
the same material, but generally
of bronze. The coins date from A. D.
238 to the defeat and death of Allectus
in 297; fourteen-fifteenths belonging
to 258-274. Of these 19,874 are coins
of the Gallo-British Provincial
Empire, and 8,243 of the Emperors
who reigned at Rome, and only
six of an earlier date! —

Believe me
Yours truly

Chas. M. Bennett.

Genl Pitt Rivers.