

Wm. G. Peckham

Green Hill

Pittou 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 1893

Dear Dr. Dawson

I was anxious all the fall to pay another visit to Mergouish, and finish my explorations among the relics of our Stone Age there. But found it impossible to do so. I am determined however if possible to do so next summer. You proposed that I should write some account of my investigations. I will do so if you wish, but think it would be much better to wait till I have had a thorough examination of the place and its remains. A special reason for this is that my present impression is that the remains are not of the Micmac age and race, but of a previous people. One reason for this opinion is the shape of the jawbone

which I left with you. On looking at  
my collection since I came home I find  
another, not so complete as that but showing  
the same structure, being very small,  
and the branches being closed together.

If this is found to be the normal character  
of the jaw bones found at that place  
it would be in my opinion ~~to~~ sufficient  
to show that I have come upon the remains  
of a different race from the Micmaes,  
which <sup>is established</sup> will render the investigation still  
more interesting. Lescarbot speaks of the  
Micmaes as coming on war with the  
Eskimos to the north, I will endeavour  
to get some jaw bones, and if possible skulls,  
from some of the oldest known Micmae  
burying grounds for the sake of comparison.  
On looking at Lescarbot since I came  
home I find that in what he speaks  
of the Micmaes exposing their dead on  
scaffolds he is speaking of what he had  
not seen. He says that they kept their

place of buying secret, and that this is the way all the savages from Peru without being, showing that he only spoke loosely of what he had heard.

If the jaw bone I left with you is not of any special use I would be obliged if you would return it home by parcel post as I wish to have all I can for comparison. When I complete my collection I will probably at the end place it in some public Institution, where I think it will do most service.

Since my return I have examined the Micmac remains in the Halifax Museum. There are no remains of crochets there at all, and not a bone implement. There is one small copper knife, and a quantity of copper ornaments from Simenbung.

If you have time I would be obliged if you would mention the kind of ~~the~~ stone of which the chips I left ~~you~~ with you are composed.

I will keep the remains I find in  
the cemetery <sup>distinct</sup> from any others I may  
find till I have investigated the question of the  
people to whom they belonged.  
With kind remembrances to Mrs. Dawson.

I remain

Sincerely Yours

George Patterson