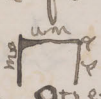


Belle Riviere May 1st 1882

Dr Dawson - Dear Sir

Further received your letter of the 26 April. I was glad to hear from you, as I thought you had forgot all about the pieces of wood I took you.

I got a slice of the stump, the whole size of the tree. The grains of each years growth are visible on one side. but part of the other side, the heart of the stump is decayed, but fortunate one whole side remains to tell the age of the tree. I will send the piece down to you as soon as possible so you can see the time since it has been written for your self. It may be the month of June before any of us will be in town. As seed time is coming on & we will be busy for a while. But by that time I expect to give full or particulars about it.

There are three mounds on one side of the tree which form a square something like this,  with the tree on the side without ^o a mound. We have shown the place to several but cannot get any suggestion as to what it signifies. Before going down to Town I intend digging to see if anything can be found to explain. Perhaps you might suggest something as to what the mounds signify. They do not look like graves the way they are laid off. The open side ~~is~~ with the tree on front faces the south. Probably it may only have been some explorers that have camped there for a while. At that time the country must have been most all in bush, for Grandfather came here in the year 1830 and the greater part of the country was not cleared then, and according to the pores

of wood in the stump it must
have been done long before that
I took great interest in reading
the book on "The Chain of Life in
Geological Time" which you lent me
Will return it first chance
If I would not expose myself to a
fine for shooting birds after the
1st of May. It would be a great
pleasure to me for to take half a
day and go to the Evergreen bushes
and shoot some of ^{the} rarer kinds of birds
and present them to the Museum.
There is a time in ~~the~~ Spring
when I have seen birds of the most
improved beautiful plumage feeding in the
edge of swamps. They seem to
disappear as the warmer weather
comes in. If you would like
any I could shoot some of the nicest
and forward them by express
immediately after shooting

Wm
Hoping to see you soon again

I remain yours truly

William Osmond Jr

Hill Farm

Bell Baviere

Co. Two Mountains