To Osborne St.
Wednesday Sept. 2nd

My dear Dr. Dawson,

Dægsan stán is, as I surmised, the stone of Dægsa; who Dægsa was I do not know but I feel sure he can be tracked to earth in the Celtic or the Annalistic portion of the Redpath library. I meant to-day to look him up but Mr Taylor has away at lunch.

The name appears in 3 forms Dægsan stán (the best as Dægsan is in genitive case) Degsa stán Dæg stán. Florence of Huntingdon writes Degsastan. The A.S. Chronicle under date A.D. 603 has this note (I translate literally):-

"Ælfthan king of the Scots fought against the Dalreods" (i.e. the people of Dalriada in Scotland: there were two Dalriadas facing one another across the Scoto-Irish strait) and against Æthelfrith

the King of the Northumbrians at Degsten" (i.e. Dawston or Dalston in Cumberland) and very nearly all his army was slain."

Bede speaks of Degsastan as a "famous place" - "this battle was fought in the famous place which is called Degsastan (Dawston)

By the way there is a Dalston, a suburb of London. There are two or three books on English surnames, one of wh. is in the Library.

I don't know if the information given above will be of any use to you: it is all my limited resources here can produce. I will follow it up.

J. Maxbay Mackintosh,

Charles Moyse.

Mus
Dec/13