

8456

W. D. Webster,  
Collector of  
Ethnological Specimens,  
European and Eastern  
Arms and Armour.

Oxford House,  
Bicester,  
Oxon.

Edinburgh  
Friday, Aug 16/95.

Dear Sir

I beg to acknowledge your letter,  
I am surprised the New Ireland dancing  
Club has not arrived as it was sent  
off the morning you wrote for it.

I bought the hapland skull &  
the one presented to Mr Napier together.  
which was written on in ink but the  
one you got was written in pencil.  
I showed it to a medical gentleman  
& he said it was correct.

The harp you mention is Burmese  
but I sold it some time ago to a  
gentleman for 37/6 but have not received  
the money for that & some other specimens,  
I am writing to him tonight asking  
if he will part with it. he is not a collector  
but an artist.

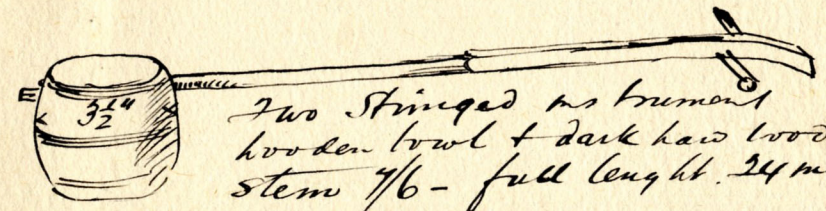
I expect to have a fine lot  
of fresh specimens in next week as  
I am now going round the Country buying,  
have just had a large order from  
Berlin Museum, they want all the  
New Guinea dancing Snacks & that  
Dancing should you got & a lot  
other things.

I give you sketches of two  
Musical instruments, Either Burmese

in Malay



Yellow polished wood full length 36 in  
9/4 wide, the instrument is not hollow  
but consists of one piece about 1 1/2" thick  
& all wing mounted, with grotesque  
a conventional head at end. £1. 10. 0



Two stringed instrument  
wooden bowl & dark hard wood  
stem 7/6 - full length 24 inches

both instruments have lost their  
strings

No 110 in June Catalogue is a very  
interesting specimen there is none  
like it in your collection at Oxford.

I enclose as requested -  
shall return home in a few days,  
all letters are forwarded on to me,

I remain

Yours faithfully  
W D Webster

Genl Pitt Rivers  
Rushmore

W. D. Webster,  
Collector of  
Ethnological Specimens,  
European and Eastern  
Arms and Armour.

And  
Sept. 18/95.

8456

Oxford House,  
Bicester,

Sept 13/95. Oron.

Dear Sir I beg to acknowledge your  
letter enclosing cheque & enclosed  
receipt herewith  
The two New Guinea specimens  
have been sent off this day per passenger  
train

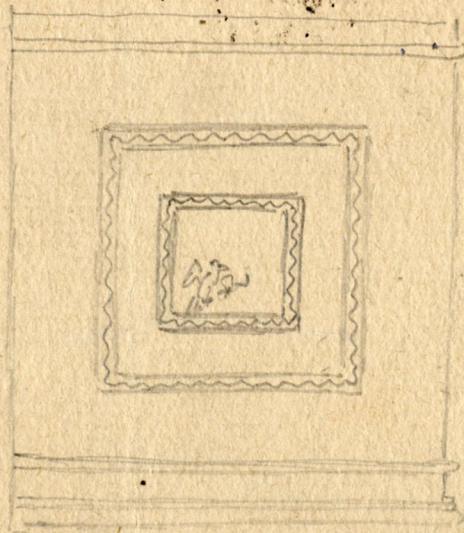
to Burmese pedestal.

I enclose another proof which kindly  
return as I have no more, on it I have  
marked in red what glass is missing  
which is silvered white glass with the  
exception of one piece of amber on  
centre left panel, this can easily be put  
in as the glass is embedded in cement  
there are two or three other pieces that  
are cracked but not noticeable.

The ends are not glass but as shown  
over, there is about 2 inches of woodwork  
(which is teak) above top glass shown  
in drawing which would be right for  
forming moulding if it was going to  
be made into anything, it can be well  
packed & sent you on approval if you  
wish but if you do not keep it kindly  
return it at once. as I have written  
a gentleman at Durham about it who goes  
a lot for Indian work.

Yours faithfully  
General Pitt Rivers.

Yours faithfully  
W D Webster



Raised ornament gilt at ends

of have sent to N. G. Stearns of Good's motor  
passenger to Newbury station

B456

W. D. Webster,  
Collector of  
Ethnological Specimens,  
European and Eastern  
Arms and Armour.

Oxford House,  
Bicester,  
Oct 3/95 Oxon.

Dear Sir,

I herewith send you  
sketches of four Samoa Clubs  
I bought at same time as  
the one I sent you on appro  
The three largest 20" each  
the smallest 10"

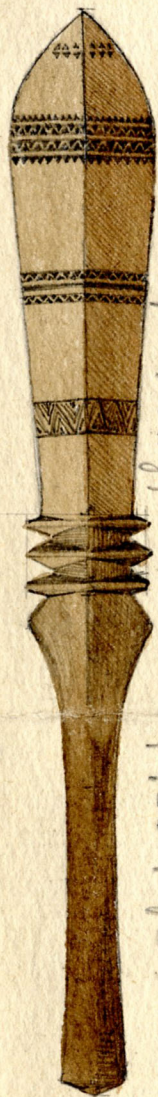
Kindly let me have  
the sketches if same back  
I oblige

I remain

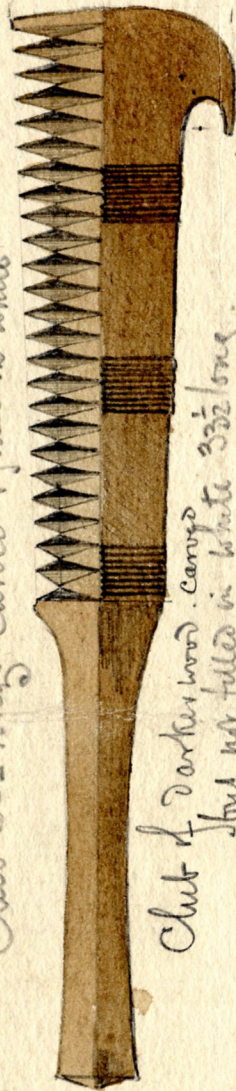
Yours faithfully  
W D Webster

General Pitt Rivers

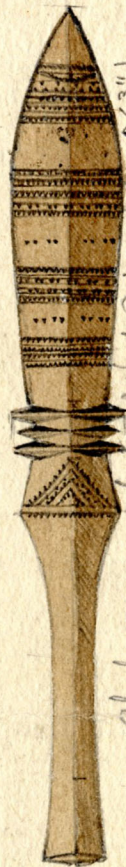
P.S. The Dyak dress I mentioned  
arrived today & is New Guinea, the  
best ornament of some very  
fine composed of 18 split boar tusks,  
shells & Coix seeds, but have not  
brought it yet



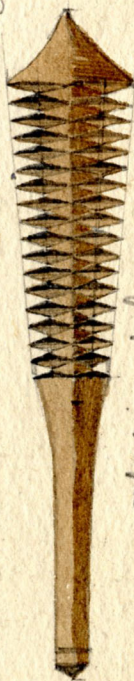
Club 33 1/2 long. Carved & filled in white



Club of darker wood. Carved  
but not filled in white 33 1/2 long.



Club. Carved but not filled in white. 26 3/4 long



Club 20 1/2 long

CLUBS  
from  
SOMOA.

Drawn To 2" scale

W.D.W  
Oct. 3. 95.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:—  
"WEBSTER, BICESTER, OXON."

W. D. Webster,  
Collector of  
Ethnological Specimens,  
European and Eastern  
Arms and Armour.

Orford House,  
Bicester,

April 22/96 Oxon.

Dear Sir

I beg to acknowledge your order with best thanks, the only reduction I can make is 5% five per cent for cash. Everything in your order I could have sold without troubling to catalogue to either Vienna. Berlin. Dresden Hamburg & Stockholm Museums all of which are wanting these things I shall have order by telegram for them in morning, if I was to let one Museum have them the other would say I had given them preference so I now sell to first person whose order comes in, I have visited all the Ethnographical Museums on the Continent this year & without exception they asked me ask more for my specimens, they all give me far larger orders than people & Museums in England

The two boomerangs 97 & 98 went to Edinburgh Museum this morning. With reference to the North American tent, it was too

large to make a sketch of & is far better than I thought when I catalogued it, there are painted figures all round with tomahawks, & it is a specimen I am certain of selling to Christchurch Museum New Zealand, I have sent it you on approval & will accept seven guineas cash for it I gave six guineas. I know two gentlemen in Borneo who promised to get me some heads the one I have got I could not take less than £2.5-0 for

I remain

Yours faithfully,

W. D. Webster

General Pitt Rivers

P.S. The New Zealand paddle took <sup>63</sup> me three months to get I bought from Capt Cheywyns son who wanted £150 for it there is not another like it in Europe, It is a long figure but very little more than it cost me to make not take any less for it

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS :-  
"WEBSTER, BICESTER, OXON."

8456

W. D. Webster,  
Collector of  
Ethnological Specimens,  
European and Eastern  
Arms and Armour.

Oxford House,  
Bicester,  
Oxon.

Feb. 15. 1897

Dear Sir

I have this day forwarded to my printers first eight pages of my next Catalogue and have told them to send proofs of same on to you direct to save time. I think several of the specimens will suit so kindly let me know as soon as you receive proofs as I am going to Holland & Sweden at the end of this week & if you write at once I can get the things off before I go.

I shall be much obliged if you would kindly let me have a cheque for the specimens you bought when I was at Rushmore, as I expect to buy a quantity of specimens on my way back at Hamburg. I remain

Yours faithfully  
W. D. Webster

General Pitt Rivers

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:—  
"WEBSTER, BICESTER, OXON."

W. D. Webster,  
Collector of  
Ethnological Specimens,  
European and Eastern  
Arms and Armour.

Oxford House,  
Bicester,  
Oxon.

Amad.  
2456  
July 17, 1897

Dear Sir

I beg to acknowledge  
your letter and to say that  
the Burmese saddle must be  
for a horse as the bridle that  
is with it could not possibly  
be for an Elephant.

You can have the Stone  
Idol for £4.4. less 5% for  
cash. it cost me £3.10 without  
my travelling expenses & the  
carriage of it here,

Kindly send me a cheque  
to 3 Kendal Villas  
Thurlow Park Road  
West Dulwich

London  
where I shall be on Saturday  
+ stay till the Monday when  
I go to Amsterdam

I do not know if my  
Dunten have sent you proofs

So Enclose come hereunder,  
if you wish for the things  
before I go away you had  
better wire me the numbers  
if you have not written when  
you receive this, I expect  
to get some Lapland  
specimens from Prof Retzius  
in Stockholm when I am  
there if there should be any  
engraved ones will give you  
first offer of them

I remain  
Yours faithfully  
W D Webster

General Pitt Rivers

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS :-  
"WEBSTER, BICESTER, OXON, ENGLAND."

W. D. WEBSTER,  
Collector of  
ETHNOLOGICAL SPECIMENS,  
EUROPEAN AND EASTERN  
ARMS AND ARMOUR.

OXFORD HOUSE,  
BICESTER,  
OXON, ENGLAND.

July 18th 97

Dear Sir  
I beg to acknowledge your letter  
& telegraph, and have this day  
forwarded you per passenger train  
the two specimens telegraphed for,  
also a pair of carved wood stumps  
which came out of a collection  
of Armour <sup>is</sup> sold at Lambourn  
Place. Buck's some years ago.

Did you notice No 27 has a  
man & a turtle carved on it. I hope  
to finish four more pages of my  
Catalogue tonight & will ask the  
printer to send you proofs, and if  
you will send me a post card  
with numbers of any of the specimens  
you would like I will reserve them  
for you, address <sup>W.D.W.</sup> <sup>of</sup> D. Hj/mer Stolpe  
National Museum  
Stockholm

where I shall be next Wednesday  
or Thursday - I shall be having  
proofs of the four pages sent to me  
at Amsterdam & shall most  
probably sell most of the things  
catalogued so far while I am away

I leave here to-morrow for  
London,

I remain  
yours faithfully  
W. D. Webster

General Pitt Rivers

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:-  
"WEBSTER, BICESTER, OXON."

W. D. Webster,  
Collector of  
Ethnological Specimens,  
European and Eastern  
Arms and Armour.

3456  
Orford House,  
Bicester,  
Oxon.

August 12<sup>th</sup> 98

Dear Sir

I beg to acknowledge your letter but must say I do not like the tone of it. You get the first offer of all my things that I think likely to suit you - at 50% less than I ask anyone else - then you doubt my having buyers abroad for the same pieces. I may tell you that for the large heads for truck support I have never got less than £35 each & the smallest £25. The bronze plaques I have sold on the continent from £10 to £30 each, I am perfectly willing to support my statement by sending you letters from continental museums, up till the present time I have sold £821 worth of Benin specimens to 3 Continental Museums & £217 to English Museums & to yourself up till time of writing £175.5.7. I quite admit I get good profits on some things else, I could not live, as many of my things do not pay me. Except by having the name of getting all

the best things that come into the market, which I intend to keep up - Buyers like Mr. Read & Partington. I would not take the trouble to write to, as I would give four times what they would give myself. Many a time I have bought a quantity of specimens just to secure one good one. All the others are left on my hands. As a matter of fact I do not feel a bit better off than when I started, except that my collection has increased, and if I could afford it I certainly would not part with anything - bring just as much collector at heart as you are, & as a matter of fact I fell out with all my relations in taking my hobby up as a business & giving up my proper work as an Ecclesiastical Designer -

I am sending the Benin & other things tomorrow, the two Eskimo bows I will let you have at £10 nett. although they are the only two I have ever been able to get - I hope the Skeleton arrived safely

I remain

Yours faithfully  
W. D. Webster

Genl. Pitt Rivers



Ans'd...  
Apr. 27/99...

(B 456)

LAKE VIEW VILLAS,  
BOWNESS ON WINDERMERE.

April 25<sup>th</sup> 1899

Dear Sir

Your letter has just  
been forwarded on to me.  
and I beg to say that  
I cannot allow any more  
than five per cent discount  
for cash. you only want  
my best specimens which  
I can easily sell and  
get the full price for.  
I give you the first offer  
of my best things. if you  
think my prices too high  
I will refrain from bothering  
you in future.

Yours faithfully  
W D Webster

G D Pitt Rivers

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:—  
"WEBSTER, BICESTER, OXON."

B45C

W. D. Webster,  
Collector of  
Ethnological Specimens,  
European and Eastern  
Arms and Armour.

Oxford House,  
Bicester,  
Oxon.

71896

Dear Sir  
I beg to acknowledge your  
letter and to say that I have  
forwarded you all three pieces  
of redder horn, the piece from the  
strand I am not making any  
charge for. You can certainly  
keep the pamphlet on Camer.

This morning I had an  
order from Hamburg for every  
Daneung mask & New Guinea  
shield, the only specimen that  
I sent you that was not ordered  
was the New Guinea bowl you  
got.

I remain

Yours faithfully  
W D Webster

General Pitt Rivers

P.S. Sent per L & NW Ry Posttrain