

only a subject that men of large
resources can follow seriously, yet
it is interesting to get some
general ideas as to what you are
doing.

Pardon my troubling you
with such a long letter.

I am, Sir,

yours respectfully

A. H. Kingsbury

Lieut. General Pitt-Rivers F.R.S.

(1289)

Ringwood

May 17th 1895

My dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge
I return of my lecture, & I am much
gracified by your doing me the honor
of reading it. The comments you
were pleased to make were so interesting,
that I greatly regret that your leisure
did not permit them to be more copious.

I had seen 1 effigy - Tollard
Church, but in a brief ~~speech~~ lecture,
there were many things that had to be
omitted - I may add, that when
examining it, I could not make 1
date carved on 1 slab, agree with
what you state in 1 volume on King
John's House. It seemed a century
out - are you sure it is correct?

What you say of 1 late Viscount

Gomerion is doubtless true, but he seemed to me to be altogether wanting in practical judgment & devoid of a knowledge of men & capacity for lead or organisation, which one looks for in a man born to his prospects. In contemplating such a prospective hereditary legislator on the one hand & a political agitator on the other, one has a grim feeling of a country being between a devil & a deep sea.

I was much interested in the brief personal information you vouchsafed. Few men can have an experience equal to yours of both modern & ancient weapons, & I should be interested to know your opinion, which had a advantage as regards the physical development of individuals, from practice in their use.

It has seemed to me that modern rifle firing is much inferior as an exercise to ancient archery, when every

village had its butts. Firing at targets I venture to say is slow work, wherein success depends on a man bringing himself to a state of quiescence, rather than bringing into action a balanced co-operation of muscles of the body as in archery. I don't know whether any archer has ever taken up the subject & treated it ably.

I trust you did not consider my remarks too free in criticising your style, only it would have been no use to have recommended your writings as interesting to my audience, & the popular taste in these matters is not worth much; a historian who studies picturesqueness & goes in for effect seems not to have had all the best of it in recent controversies.

I have not commenced my excursions to your country yet, other matters putting it out of my mind, & of course it is