

years without success to get
the examination printed in this
region, there has at last come
a letter from W. A. Morton of
Hobart, who has been in the
Murchison River district and
finds tribes there in the same
quasi-paleolithic stage as the
Tasmanian, so that it seems
reasonable to extend the area
of this rude stone age over
Australia also, treating the ground
stone hatchets as introduced from
the northern part into which
they came across Torres Strait

Amst. 1/1/98. Rieder-Furka (22170)
Muséel (Calais) Aug 4
98

Dear General Pitt-Rivers
I had some talk
with Salomon Reinach of the
Musée de St. Germain lately
about your coil and meander
series at the Museum at
Oxford where he examined your
specimens carefully with me
not long ago. We met again on
the Calais steamer and he said
that he had not a set of your

papers and only knew your
views from me, I think the
Actual Green Catalogue. I said
that of all places these papers ought
to be at Saint Germain, and that
I would ~~would~~ to ask you
what can be done.

Writing this reminds me that it
is some while since I wrote to
or heard from you. There is a
steady if rather a slow growth
going on in your various series
from new specimens, which you
will I think like to look at
if you can find time to come

to Oxford after the vacation.
How did they some new
lines of connexion start. You
will be interested to hear that
the Tasmanian area of quasi-
paleolithic implements is at
last found to extend into Australia.
For years whenever we go into
Somerset, I pay a visit to
Mr Sanford of Nynehed and get
him to bring out a gum-hafted
stone blade, chipped after the
rudest Tasmanian manner, which
he brought from West Australia over
40 years since. After attempting for

The longer I live the more I
feel the value of your method of
working on series of actual
objects rather than ~~one~~ mere
talk.

Mr Tylor sends his very kind
regards to Mr Pitt-Rivers.
We are here in the mountains
for a few weeks but shall
return next week to Oxford.

Believe me
Yours very truly
Edward Tylor

12170
in some comparatively
recent period. It is hoped you
may come to Bristol for the
British Association in September,
so I mention that I am
arranging for a short paper
to set this subject moving.
You will remember the carved
and painted small totem-posts
from North-West America, which
are placed in the Huxham figure
series. I have lately been examining
them carefully with Balfour
and they seem not be merely

art carvings but to have
value as actual totem-figures,
as I find by having taken
a great deal of trouble lately
about the meaning & origin
of totems. The theological world
at Oxford had been exciting
itself much of late about
the works of J. G. Frazer and
F. H. Johnson, and I have been
called in to say what the truth
is about the theory of totems
as expounded by McLennan in

his papers long ago, as to the
totems being among the greatest
factors in the development of
the religions of the world. The
whole business seems to be
of minor importance and most
of the theories worthless which
have been built on it by these
ingenious writers. But in the
mean time the totems are rather
interesting and worth working
out, and your Haida specimens
will I hope come in useful.