

think what makes it  
interesting & it is a fetish  
before which Europeans of this  
century, kneel - Mrs. Mosely  
is timid about exhibiting the  
Christian idols in your museum  
for fear of giving offence. I  
think that a collection of  
all the Saints, with their  
attributes, in the most examples  
would be very interesting &

(L393)

Shrewsbury  
Oct 8  
1887

My dear General

It has been a great relief to  
my mind to hear that you  
have consented to place the  
British fetish I ventured to send  
you in your Museum. My  
wife thought that you would  
not possibly think my



intentions honourable, but I  
maintained that an ethnologist's  
mind can see merits in the  
rudest productions which are  
not seen by the ignorant,  
there is a very old man  
hereabouts, who makes these  
scarecrows & when he dies  
there will be no more  
demand for them. Encouraged

by your reception I send you  
now a little Madonna from  
the great pilgrimage place of  
Siensiedeln - Here you know  
exactly whom & what the  
figure represents, but if it  
were the symbol of a lost  
lost religion, could any  
ethnologist explain it or  
reconstruct it? This is I



not expensive to make.  
There is a great manufactory  
at Munich, but these productions  
are too artistic - in the  
streets near St Sulpice at  
Paris there are shops full  
of daints & at Cöln also  
I have seen many,  
but they must be rudely

carved to be instructive &  
interesting - one might pick  
up many in a tour through  
Southern Germany - If  
you appreciate my little  
Madonna, I think I can  
offer you some other little  
objects.

Y<sup>rs</sup> sincerely  
Arthur Russell