

Worcester 8th Dec: 91

L793

Dear General,

I have been patiently waiting since the date of my last note I troubled you with, for instructions concerning Mrs Hopkins's Antiquities from the lady herself, and am now able to enclose a letter from her which has been handed to me this morning by her friend Miss Deane. You will see that it is ^{as} I had suspected, and that I have been deceived, unintentionally no doubt, by what passed in conversation with Miss Deane at our first interview on the subject.

I certainly understood from
her that I was quite at
liberty to do what I pleased
with the Antiques, and in
reply to a question as to whether
any "consideration" was expected
I was decidedly answered in the
negative, of which I have the
witness of my wife. I felt the
greatest pleasure in offering the
things for your Museum, and
the disappointment I now feel
is commensurate. I can
understand now that the poor
lady was in great trouble when
she sent ^{them} to me. Her husband, who
has been a respectable tradesman

in Wimborne is now in the
hands of his creditors, all his
property has been sold, & he
is gone no one knows where.
His wife has fortunately some
little property of her own.
The things are still in my
possession, & I will keep them
until I hear from you. If
you have any wish to negotiate
for the purchase, I shall be
happy to be made use of, if
you would not prefer direct
communication with Mr. Hopkins
herself, whose present address
is in her letter.

With very great regrets for this
unfortunate circumstance,
Believe me
Yours sincerely
Lieut Genl
a. Pitt Rivers FRS. T. W. W. Smart.

L 793

Collingwood
Tisbury Road
Hournemouth
Dec 5th

Dear Miss Dean

I did not intend
parting with the old
things but should not
object to do so if I could
get a good price for

them as my circumstances condition - I wish I
were so altered & I paid some a general picture
the men for each thing, could have seen it before
as they found them it was built over -
I do not know if I told you with best love
that in creating at the Kelvin we to remain
will they come upon yours very sincerely
a perfect framework of E. A. Hopkins
a building of splendid
black oak in perfect