My dear Sir: Early last spring Dr. Governor Emerson of this city—a gentleman of scientific and Antiquarian tastes and one of the most active members of the Academy of Natural Sciences—discovered on one of his farms on Little Creek Nek—five miles east from Dover, Delaware—a curious deposit of burnt and broken bones. On examination he found several bushels of these bits of bone representing every part of the human skeleton buried in an oval pit some three feet beneath the surface of the ground. On top of the bones was a layer of ashes one of which remained unbroken. These ashes were evidently of a form entirely
different from those which
are used by the present race
of Indians—many of the pieces
being marked with serrated
lines something like the
pottery of the Cherokees.

I mentioned to Dr. Emerson
that you were much interested
in gathering for the Yale
Museum specimens of everything
that might illustrate the
character and habits of our
Aboriginal Races and he
has sent to me a few pieces
of the bones and a cast of
the pipe to be forwarded to
you.

I do not know whether
you will find them of
value but they seem likely
to be interesting as evidence of
the only discovery yet
made—so far as I can
learn—of human bones
burned and buried in
this peculiar manner (with
pipe)—East of the Allegheny
Mountains.

Very truly Yours

Henry Armitt Brown

Prof. O. C. Marsh
Yale College.