

Office of Genia County Board of School Examiners.



C. L. BEMIS, PORTLAND, MICH.
J. B. MILLARD, CHAIRMAN, BELDING, MICH.

June 15, 1886.

Dear Sir:

Since the enclosed was written another examination has been made and the last mound that opened, in all some 30 skeletons were examined. The difference noted from what is written there is that one body was found alone in one mound the skeleton extended at length ^{on its back} and arms extended at right-angles to the body; near the head was one of the shell whorls, and near the feet a vase or earthen jar, the material a coarse clay with fine gravel in it, the vase was evidently broken when found, but was struck by the spade and broken up, more or less 50 or 60 pieces of it were sifted out. It is rough on the outside as if moulded in a woven cloth or willow basket, the top edge with a small scallop and thicker edge. In two other mounds pieces of similar ware were found, but not many of them. The last body lay nearly under the beech tree and was hard getting at, as we had to cut away so many large roots; it was found alone, on its face, with the legs drawn up; three of the ribs were found lying partly through between the two bones of the lower leg, tibia and fibula. The right thigh bone was drawn up, same as the left, but instead of the

press being next the chin, as in all other cases observed the ball or hip end of the bone lay under the chin, showing that the body was either dismembered before burial, or else the flesh was off before the skeleton was buried here.

As indicated in enclosed article we desired to send the articles off for identification and examination, I have also two stones which I would send, provided you desire to see these things, but perhaps you know all about them now, and will not care to be troubled with them. In that case I will not forward them. I draw below outline of the two stones; the large one was found when plowing a newly cleared field; the dotted lines from A to H represent holes bored in to meet each other. B is a hole between the feet. C is cut out, while K are two sunk places to represent eyes. M is broken away. It is drawn or carved to represent a bird, with head bent over and bill joining the feet. I think was to be a ceremonial pipe, but that the maker broke it where M is and threw it away without finishing it. The other stone broken at end N. It has two holes in corners where dotted lines run.

Shall be pleased to hear from you.

Very respectfully,
Chas. Whistler

Prof. O. C. Marsh.

