

E. J. Anderson

Lancaster O. July 31, 1876,  
Prof. H. Gray, Cambridge Mass.

My dear Sir

Your kind favor received.

I earnestly protest! I once saw an engraving representing the May flower starting for the new world, & being towed out of the harbor by a steam tug. This is a vile anachronism compared with the seeds of the imported Chenopodium album among the old bones of an Indian in an "ash cove" in the wildest region in Ohio. Whether the plant you name has reached that region even yet I almost doubt, there is no clue to the age of the bones. They are for the most part well preserved. But they & the pocket of seeds were buried in a perfectly dry cove, in ashes that have never been wet, but are as dry & dusty as when they came from the "fire". The seeds were covered by some coarse cloth

May it be observed that the seeds of the C. album were found  
by the Andrians of our purpose? The ash case has been known  
for forty years or more & within that time nothing is known of any  
Yonkoid there. Before this time the C. album could hardly have been  
introduced into this wild & rocky part of the State - a point very backward  
in its settlement. Are you entirely satisfied that the seeds are the  
C. album?

Milk by the good

Went truly yours

E. D. Andrews

P.S. In the ashes (in the return box) which I put in took

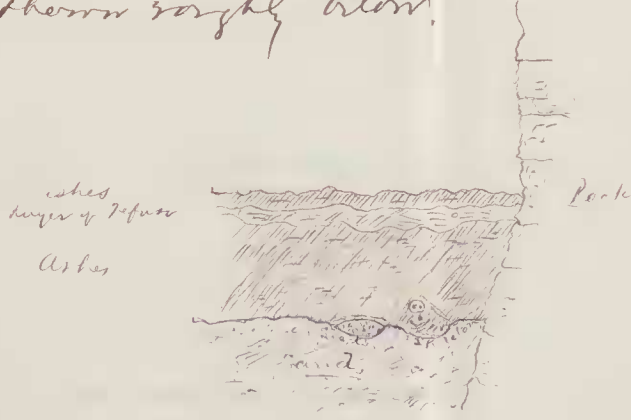
several pieces of green glass of good, which I put in took

for fragments of pottery. Do Indians have grounds? In return layer

is evidently more recent than the bones & seeds. Do crabs etc. exist? Show office

noticed in exploring old mounds the traces of old roots - in well preserved cylindrical cal pipes  
of the same covering. I think they may represent several different generations of trees which were  
uprooted when the ground beneath a collection of stems of a *Montezuma* value?

which is very much decayed, the fibres being  
easily rubbed to powder between the thumb  
& finger. The position of the bones & seeds  
is shown roughly below.



The layer of refuse contains bones of animals & birds, shells  
of turtles, bits of pottery, flints, arrow-sticks, stalks of coarse  
wheat, pieces of burnt wood & nuts of various indigenous  
kinds - cobs of corn, &c. Below this layer were ashes  
for perhaps 2 ft., then at the bottom, & resting upon  
the underlying land were the seeds & skeletons.  
The impression left upon my mind was that the bones  
had been there a considerable time & that the  
burial must have antedated the settlement  
of Ohio by the whites. I was not permitted  
the owner of the cave to explore further &  
perhaps I can clear up the matter.