

Box 305, Takoma Park P.O., D.C., Oct. 12, 1893.

To Sir William Dawson,
Mc Gill University,
Montreal, Canada,

Dear Sir:

My attention has just been called to one of your articles in the North American Review (for July, 1892), in which you refer to Dr. Horatio Hale's paper in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, Vol. IX, Section II, 1891, in which he "uses his wide knowledge of the languages of American aborigines, and other rude races, to show that grammatical complexity and logical perfection of these languages implies a high intellectual capacity in their original framers."

It may interest you in this connection to note that the Indian languages which I have been studying since 1871 (as an original investigator) are highly complex, and not so simple as Dr. D. G. Brinton would have us believe (See his paper on Polysynthesis and Incorporation). I am compelled to disagree with Dr. Brinton on several points, as will appear from my remarks (in the next number of the American Anthropologist) on Mr. J. N. B. Hewitt's paper, "Is the polysynthesis of Duponceau applicable to American Indian Languages?" My address before Section H at the Madison meeting of the A. A. A. S. this year was directed in part against the application of the principles enunciated by Duponceau and Brinton to those Indian languages which I have been recording. I have taken the liberty of sending you a copy of this address (on "The Biloxi Indians of Louisiana", who have a complex language), with several other separates.

Box 505, Toronto Park P.O., D.C., Oct. 11, 1893.

To Sir William Lawson,
Mc Gill University,
Montreal, Canada.

*Received
Mr. G. H. R. H. H.
Oct 11/93*

My attention has just been called to one of your
papers in the North American Review (for July, 1893), in which you refer
to the late's paper in the Transactions of the Royal Society of
Canada, Section II, 1891, in which he "uses his wide knowledge of
the laws of American aboriginal, and other rude races, to show that
grammatical flexibility and logical perfection of these languages implies
a high intellectual capacity in their original possessors."
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ed to disagree with Mr. H. R. H. H. on several points, as will appear from
my remarks in the next number of the American Anthropologist (on Mr. H. R. H. H.'s
paper, "The polysyllabism of American aboriginal languages") to which
I have alluded in my address before section 5 of the Madison meet-
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tion of the principles advanced by H. R. H. H. and H. R. H. H. to those In-
dian languages which I have been teaching. I have taken the liberty of
sending you a copy of this address, "The aboriginal Indians of Louisiana,"
who have a complex language, with several other languages.

(2)

I remain

Very respectfully yours,

(Rev.) J. Owen Dorsey,

Ethnologist, Bureau of Ethnology,

Smithsonian Institution.

My forthcoming article, "A Study of Siouan Cults," in the 11th. Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology, will contain several Indian prayers in the original languages, with interlinear and free translations; etc.

(2)

I remain

Very respectfully yours,

(Rev.) J. C. Brown

Anthropologist, Bureau of Ethnology,

Smithsonian Institution,

My forthcoming article, "A Study of Stone Tools," in the 11th Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology, will contain several Indian prayers in the original languages, with interlinear and free translations; etc.

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