

Sir

Greenbrier County 11th April 1796.

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Being informed you have retired from public business and returned to your former Residence in Albemarle, and observing by your Notes your very curious desire for Examining into the antiquity of our Country. I thought the bones of a Tremendous Animal of the Clawed kind lately found in a cave by some Saltpetre manufacturers about five miles from my House might afford you some amusement, have therefore procured you such as were saved (for before I was informed of them they were chiefly loosed) I do not remember to have seen any account in the History of our Country, or any other of such an animal which probably was of the Lion kind; I am induced to think so from a perfect figure of that animal carved upon a rock near the confluence of the Great Kenawha, which appears might been done many Centuries ago. The Claw I send must have been one of the Shortest for the man who owns the cave assures me he had one of the same kind that measured precisely eight Inches in Length, other bones of Human Creatures have been found here in Caves of a surprising size & uncommon kind some years ago, I should been happy to had it my power to have sent to you with these, but none are now to be got, if these should be worthy your observation it would give me much pleasure to hear your Conjectures, and shall be happy at

all

Stuart John. Greenbrier Apr. 11. 96.

Times to communicate any thing from here you might desire to
know. and remain with very great respect

rec^d. May 12.

Your Most Obed.

Humble Serv^t

John Stuart