

FBC-1-2

R. Green

62, PALMERSTON PLACE,  
EDINBURGH.

March 19

Dear Mr. Laing

Pray excuse me that  
I am writing in English but as you are  
able to read the "Proceedings of the Society  
of Antiquaries of Scotland" you will  
also be able to understand this.

Really no thanks were necessary  
for sending to so eminent or rather  
pre eminent an archaeologist, as you  
are, the record of our annual work  
in Scotland.

You invite me to ask you a question or two. Could you tell me if there is enough neolithic pottery at Algiers or any other place in Algeria to make it worth my while to visit it? My reason for inquiring is this. I have just returned from a visit to the Canary Islands & brought back photographs of a number of pieces of very interesting pottery. Some of it is painted. I do not at present know anything like it & I have thought that perhaps pottery, something similar, might

be found in Algeria. Dr Verneau has promised to send me photographs of the specimens he brought back from the Canary Islands & no doubt you have seen them at the Trocadero Museum.

The art of painting the pottery seems to me to have developed in the Grand Canary without external impulse. The ornamentation in broad diagonal bands of red is no better than what you see on the Mas d'Azil pebbles, published by M. Piette. It has a primitive appearance.

Believe me  
yours very sincerely

John Abercromby