



Oct. 26 1937

Gilbert D. Hedden, Esq.,
41 Market St.,
Morristown, N.J.

Dear Mr. Hedden:-

I have just had a reply from the Botanical Museum of Harvard University, to whom I sent some of the cocoanut fibre. You will remember that this material was pronounced cocoanut fibre by the Smithsonian Institute. The Harvard Museum writes as follows:

"The material has suffered somewhat from its burial in the ground, but even so it is readily distinguishable as Manila hemp. The external appearance is misleading, but typical Manila hemp fibers are to be noted in a microscopic examination of macerated material.
"It seems quite logical to surmise that the deposit on the shores of Oak Island in Mahone Bay represents the partly disintegrated remains of some ship's cables or hawsers."

I do not know whether this is a case of doctors differing. Possibly the two reports are not inconsistent.

I am to go to Amherst on November 29th and go over Blair's records in connection with the story of Oak Island.

The form on which a statement of taxable personal property and income is to be made, was not signed and I do not think we need take any notice of it. I assume that it was sent by the assessor to Mr. Grimm, and by him to you. If we stir this matter up it may mean increased assessment and much expense may be involved in having it reduced. I will go further into the matter however before making any return.

Very truly yours,