

Philadelphia April 26 1848

J. W. Dawson Esq.

Your esteemed favour of the 15th instant came safe to hand this day per express via Boston, accompanying the fossils which you were so kind as to transmit through the hands of Mr. Ross.

I should have been delighted to see Mr. Ross himself, whose kind attentions and gentlemanly deportment are recollected with much pleasure.

The fossils come very opportunely. The fossil collections of our Academy are now undergoing a re-arrangement and every thing which serves to fill up a deficient series is particularly acceptable. The remains found among your gypsiferous deposits have a special interest.

There is no regular catalogue of the papers published in our Journal & Proceedings. The publications of the Society are on sale chiefly at the Academy itself. The 8 volumes of Journal in 800 are sold for 16 dollars & the 3 volumes of Proceedings which contain many papers either entire or in abstract on the subjects to which you refer, can be had for \$4.50.

One number of a new Series of the Journal ^{in 4 to} was published a few months ago &

To be soon followed by a second. To this the subscription price is 1½ dollars per number subscribers to the Journal receive the Proceedings gratis during the period of their subscription.

The most extensive publications on the Silurian fossils of this country are those of Prof James Hall of Albany New York with respect to which Mr. Agassiz said last year at Boston that it far exceeded any thing of the same kind hitherto done in Europe. Mr. Hall's work is in one or more of the volumes of the Reports on the Geological Survey of New York.

The papers of Mr. T. A. Conrad on fossils both ancient & more recent are found in the publications of our Society.

I received and read with great interest the papers which you were so kind as to forward you will allow me to express my thanks for the obliging attention in transmitting them.

In Sept. next (the 3^d Wednesday) we are to have the first meeting of the American Association for the promotion of Science.

Any member ^{or correspondent} of an American Society which publishes transactions is *ipso facto* entitled if in attendance, to be enrolled as a member of the Association.

May we not ~~hope~~ to be favoured with
a visit from you on that occasion.

In a letter lately received from Mr Brown
of Sydney he gave me some hopes
of seeing him among us. I hope the
Meeting may be ~~there~~ in a larger
sense than that of any national one.

Any communication which you may be
in case of attendance, think proper to make
will I venture to assure you be received
with great pleasure by the Association.

We are anticipating a large meeting.

The collections of the Academy will I
think by that time be of some interest to
you In Botany, Ornithology, Paleontol-
ogy & Mineralogy it is receiving large
accessions. The specimens of birds chiefly de-
posited by Dr Wilson amount to 23,000.

I have been trying to interest some one
in New Brunswick or Nova Scotia to get us
a specimen of the moose & Caribou, but
thus far without success.

We have just formed an Ameri-
can Society of Economical Geology spe-
cially devoted as its name imports to the
development of the mineral riches of this
continent.

I am very respectfully

Your obt servant

Walter B. Johnson

Letter
W. R. Whistler
April 1848
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J. W. Dawson Esq
Picton
N. S.

have not had oppor of
any - Thank you
I send you spec of coal
you needed - ~~dearly~~ but
I have will send left.