

Albany May 24<sup>th</sup> 1862

My dear Sir,

I have just sent to you  
a copy of the vol. I. Geol. Report of Wisconsin,  
and have included two fragments of what I  
supposed to be a new species of Lycopodites from  
Ohio.

In reference to Singuela? polita you  
will find it on page 21 of this volume and  
on page 435 - It was written Singuela? in  
the original ms of description, but the ? was  
omitted in the printing and I never saw the  
proof till after the pamphlet was printed -  
of the first form I did read a proof but my  
corrections were never made - you  
can see at once that it was beyond the hands  
of a competent proof reader.

In regard to Mr. Billings's article, it is  
too gross to reply to even if I could reply to anything  
of the kind. At present I am pledged not to reply. He  
shows in all things so much of the cunning  
and low lawyer and the want of frankness.

He knew that you had a copy of the pamphlet in December and yet he conceals the fact. He says the Canadian Naturalist for December was published in February\* (Jan 30 is on the cover) now you noticed only the first ~~form~~ which I first sent you a proof in the summer or early autumn. The fact that the Naturalist was published on the 30<sup>th</sup> ~~of~~ in Feb and no notice of the Wisconsin Report except a proof of the first form gives color to Billings' statement.

Billings knows quite well that the little western fossil he had was the one that Owen had referred to obolus. He could not have been ignorant of it, and moreover it was the simplest thing to see that it was not obolus. My specimens I did not consider sufficiently well characterized to found a genus, and hence the remark I made. You suggest mentioning to Mr Billings my explanation. In this you may do as you please - I do not see it as you do, that your notice has led to this attack, & Billings would have found some means to attack in some other way.

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\* Can you tell me why the Naturalist published Apr. 19. should not reach here before 7<sup>th</sup> May? was my copy purposely delayed?

I believe he has left nothing untouched that  
I have published for a long time.

His entire want of honor and honesty in our  
earlier intercourse (as I have fortunately the  
means of showing from his letters has made  
me wish to avoid as far as possible, any intercourse  
with him or allusion to him. It is the  
spectre of his ever wrong doing towards  
me that constantly haunts him.

I will speak to Dr. Woolworth in reference to  
the Vol. III Vol. N.Y. for the College - Will you  
be kind enough to give me a little history of  
the purchased copy, and through whom it was  
procured with a statement of the volume, you  
have in the library.

The Secretary of State has  
been a little more stringent in regard to this  
volume and is very desirous that they shall  
go into Canada to make up the legitimately obtained  
sets - for it must be confessed that at one time  
many parts of sets got out without any sanction  
of authority.

Will you have the kindness to inform  
me when you write whether Prof. T. Hunt

is still in Quebec. I have a package  
that should have been sent to him some  
time since

I am very truly Yours  
James Hall

Prof. J. W. Dawson  
n c

Prof Hall  
May 10