

Albany Dec. 11th 1862

My dear Sir

I have received your favor of the 5th and ~~reply~~ reply as early as practicable. I had written you a note on the 29th, on the moment when I received the Naturalist for Oct. I believe I did not send this, but I do not find it on my table now.

I am very sorry that the corrections could not have accompanied your descriptions. In regard to the matter of the Catskill group, it is just what I said in my letter. Several years since, Prof. Orton then of the Normal School, collected in Franklin and the adjacent parts of Delaware County, numerous fossils which he sent to the State collection. These were accredited to him and placed in the case of Catskill group. My attention having been directed to these fossils, I pronounced them all to be Chemung group fossils; and after a considerable time and in accordance with my repeated protest they were removed from the case. Prof. Orton claimed that they were the characteristic fossils of the rocks

about Franklin, as is now proved. My explorations ~~for~~ fossils had not extended into that region of Franklin and I had not examined the rocks in place.

In August last, Prof. Cooke of New Brunswick, New Jersey informed me that Mr. J. M. Way had been making collections of fossils in the neighborhood of Franklin, among which were many remains of fishes, etc. and advised me to visit the place. This I proposed doing at once, but owing to ill health I was unable to leave home then, and did not finally reach there till the early part of October, when I found that Col. Jewett had been there a week earlier. I learned from Mr. Way that he had given the greater part of his collection, to Col. Jewett - and that he had previously sent collections to Prof. Hitchcock, Prof. Dana and Prof. Cooke. He was well aware that the characteristic brachiopods indicated the Chemung group, and had ascertained that in his own neighborhood and for some distance around, there were no rocks above the Chemung group.

In my letter to you I endeavored to give proper credit to Mr. Briton and to Mr. Way, and claimed very little for myself except that I did make a section from the Hamilton Group across the country to the south of Franklin and thence traced the same formations eastward and northeastward. So far as I am personally concerned, I care nothing about it. It is a disgrace to be brought in contact with Jewett in this manner by a man like Billings.

I am very sincerely

Yours

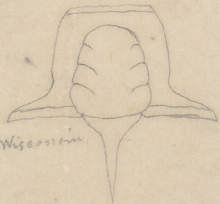
James Hall

Prof. J. M. Dawson L.L.D.

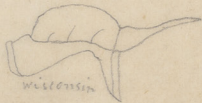
P.S. If you will excuse me for sending a copy - I had not time to copy my original & had retailed it in one or two places - My 4th vol is in prep and with my impaired health I find that I am not able to do much beyond attending to that work. On opening the material I found any letter to you of the 30th Nov. and enclose it that you may leave my first impressions - please excuse it if there are any extremes.

Prof Wall
Dec 18

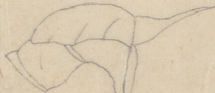
Q. Prof. Cooke in his conversation with me mentioned that it was evident that Mather's work had all been done over and from this I infer that he knew the character and age of the fossils sent him by Mr. Way, but he did not tell me distinctly, so far as I recollect that they were Chazy. Prof. Dana may have known from the collections that they were Chazy, but of this I know nothing. - Should there be any other person claiming credit please avoid them everything - It never occurred to me that the ascertaining that a formation extended over a country a little farther than had been laid down on the maps was a matter of quarrel about -



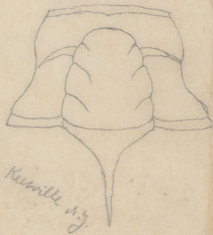
Wisconsin



Wisconsin



Kennell, N.Y.



Kennell N.Y.

Enlarged to 4 diameters