

Kaggid Reef Cumberland N.S.

June 1<sup>st</sup> 1869.

My Dear Sir:

I am no Geologist, but by reading the works of Hugh Miller, Lyell, and a work on the Geology of Nova Scotia by yourself I have become interested in the science & have collected something of a cabinet of fossils on this shore of the bay of Fundy, and among these I have a specimen of the upper jaw, or more properly a cast of one half of an upper jaw of either a fish or reptile & tho' I never attempted a drawing in my life I have tried to give you some idea of its looks by this enclosed penciling which is about the natural size. The cast is made in coarse grained sandstone (granite grit) and the

and the spot in which it was imbedded seems to have been a thin seam of small gravel, tho the main rock is clear even grit - evidently the bone was washed up by water with small pebbles at the same time on a bank of sand & corals in that position. I have not attempted to draw the cast, as I found it impossible to show the holes made by the teeth, so have tried to reproduce it as it was when imbedded. There appears to have been thirteen teeth, possibly fourteen as there is room for one or more near the outer end of the jaw tho it does not show in the cast. The holes when the teeth were are generally full of some decayed substance, not sand - and can be easily removed by a pin and I have opened two or three. The depth is from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch which was the probable length of the teeth which were conical like the teeth of the crocodile of the southern United States.

you will see that the jaw curves to nearly a quarter of a circle. Knowing the scarcity of marine fossils on this shore in the Carboniferous district I have taken the liberty to write you this description knowing that it will be of interest to you and may possibly be another link in the geological chain which may benefit the science.

The specimen I found in a block of stone which probably fell from the bank within two or three years and was about midway between the Joggins Coal wharff and McCains River, at a point where a ledge or reef makes out, and where the shore extends out into the bay in a slight bend, and at the first getting point to be seen from the Mines wharf looking down the bay on south shore.

If you will give me your opinion as to what kind of a fish or reptile this

blurred, and would reply to this letter as soon as convenient you will confer on me. In the mean time I shall look anxiously for a reply and shall treasure this specimen with great care.

I will say that I am here engaged getting large quantities of wood for the "American Wood Paper Co" of Providence R.I. and shall remain here till fall. If you desire information of my creditability I should be pleased to have you make enquiries of Mr Bobbs, at Joggins Mines - Mr Cutter at Lower Cove, A. S. Searns & Co + George Stibbard of Moncton or any other prominent men of this shore.

Please direct to

H A Morrell  
Joggins Mines  
Cumberland

To Prof J. W. Dawson  
Montreal

~~H A Morrell~~  
Joggins Mines  
Cumberland

1354  
2999

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