

William  
Fallowfield Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 1871

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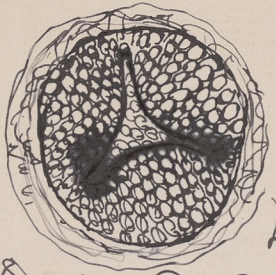
My dear Sir

I have been so fearfully  
preoccupied with work that I have  
had to abandon letter writing  
for a season - hence the delay  
in replying to your last two  
letters - Many thanks for  
your volume on the Devonian  
plants which is a great ac-  
quisition to our knowledge  
of that ancient epoch. What  
a queer plant the Psitacium  
must have been - - - Also  
many thanks for your offer  
of help versus Mr Mab and Co.  
but you will see that they  
are now silent - did you

ever realize the possibility of  
a professor of Botany uttering  
such absurd things as Thwaites  
Dyer perpetrates - However -  
in his last letter he had  
to eat his Salt - and he  
has made no attempt to  
answer my reply. - I am  
getting on with some mag-  
nificent things - I think that  
my next memoir concerning  
Young Lepidodendroid shafts  
with Diplozoum stems and  
a very remarkable form  
of Lepidosporoid fruit will  
be the most complete thing  
I know of connected with



Chalco phytology. - I have also got some *Exochorda*  
*Stems* of *Asplenium* like. They have a triangular  
 central axis of broad vessels numerous  
 CD by an extensive growth of  
 similar vessels in regular radiating  
 series - In some species the vessels  
 have been reticulate or "arithmetical" &  
 have also got several new *Leptodermis*  
*forms* - one of these is a  
 beautiful thing having an outer bark  
 or cylinder of very regular cells



Strongly developed parenchyma  
This encloses a delicate inner layer  
within which are two vascular  
bundles of beautiful reticulate  
texture - One of these has a cres-  
centic section & the other are  
shaped like a dumb-bell with  
an indentation at each end.

I often wish I had you here  
to show you these treasures -  
Of the *Burkesland* & *Dictyoxylon*  
I have got the young twigs &  
the same of an *Lancashire*

*D. Oldhamium*. These plants (i.e.  
*Dictyoxylon*) will form subjects  
of my 4<sup>th</sup> Memor. (*Diplogylon*  
being the third). Mrs W sends  
very kind regards

I am ever yours  
W C Williamson