

Fallowfield April 29/72

My dear Sir

I have an impression that I am several letters deep in your debt - but my heavy loss seems to have half paralyzed me, body & mind - so that I forget what I really have done and to whom I have written - Many thanks for your last letter received a day or two ago - with its kind sympathy - whatever I am engaged upon - the dark dreary image of death is constantly forcing itself uppermost upon thought & memory - but I am doing my best not to yield to an unmanly, paralyzing grief because I am satisfied that such would least of all have given pleasure to her could she have been here to express her wishes.

A low motive, you will say, for  
doing right - but at times like  
these even inferior motives are  
not worthless if they influence in  
the right direction. - and such, I  
trust, they are doing with me.

By this time you will have got  
my Calamite memoir. No 2 is  
passing through the press - and  
No 3 is in the hands of the R.S.  
To follow, I expect, at an early  
date. I am now working upon  
No 4 - my *Dipterocarpon* - they  
are most extraordinary plants  
and remote from every *Lepi-*  
*cadendroid* that I am acquainted  
with, unless they have been allied  
to *Psilotum*. - - For some other  
stems I shall have to make  
two new genera. One of these is

for a woody plant with barred  
veins - and a pith with a remar-  
kable star-shaped section - This  
I propose to call Asterophylloides astro-  
myelon - The other is also a woody  
plant with reticulate veins and  
no pith at all - This I propose to  
designate Armyelon. Then I have  
now superb examples of Asterophylloides  
both from our district and from  
Buntstaud, They have no pith  
but are characterized by a trian-  
gular central <sup>vascular</sup> axis around which  
the exogenous growths were developed  
until the stems became perfectly  
cylindrical - These three types  
will have to occupy my  
fifth memoir. Then a number  
of very singular forms such

as *Zygopteris* & the plant that  
Binney has designated *Stauropteris*  
with a number of other  
green adds seeds that I have  
in my cabinet, will consti-  
tute the sixth & last of the  
series so far as I can now  
see. — I have just got such  
superb sections of *Halonia*! They  
would make your mouth water  
to see them. The tubercles of *Halonia*  
were confined to the inner bark —  
a bast layer, invested by another  
of Parenchyma, filled up the spaces  
between them & made a beam with  
a smooth exterior.

Ever yours, sincerely  
W. Williamson