

Yours faithfully
J. J. Bigsby

March: 28/74

Dr. Ryerly
89 Gto. St.

My dear Dawson

I thank you for the newspaper
summary of your son's investigations
in the Northwest - I am sure he
has done his work to the satisfaction
of his father - as well as to that of
his employers - I am glad that
he has been able to bear exposure
fatigue, strange food and Mosquito
I believe that you will continue to
have pleasure in George - and that
he will be a prominent man not
very long hence -

I desire to be remembered to your
dear wife and daughter - who both
impressed us well and pleasantly
when

Their visit was a great pleasure to me,
whatever it might be to them.

I have delayed writing in answer to
your welcome Christmas greeting - partly
because I had no news - and partly on
account of my great occupation with
the Life Statistics of the Devonian-Carbono-
iferous system - an undertaking far
more extensive and laborious than I
had any idea of - Had I been aware
of this I should not have begun it -
The Thesaurus (or register) of bones
and the materials for comment are
collected - My fear and even my
expectation is that I shall not live
to finish it - but God's will is my
will -
I never said these complaints of Americans

now returning their papers for those of
European authors - It was Garraude -

I have been obliged by Newberry without
asking - and I should be glad to show
him any kindness - A year ago I begged
of him his recent paleontol. report for the
State of Ohio - very valuable to me - but
no reply - Most probably Newberry was
in the field - & so never heard of the letter

When you want a book English or con-
-mental let me know - Very possibly I may
fail but I should like to try. -

I duly receiv^d your fossil plants of the
lower Carbonif. & Devonian & have used
them; but Acadia 2^d Edition has been
my great mine - your Earth & Strata
is in its 3^d Edition - It was in size, mat-
-ter & manner - exactly suited to the English
market - simple, short, satisfactory

The Rev^d Dr Bosworth (Anglo-Saxon Scholar) to
my foolish cousin, a voluminous author - "I
"have made £15000 by my books - you have
made

9098/46/9

made a loss, because I waited till a book was
wanted — not so you — Just so my

Thesaurus Silivicus was not wanted & never
 sold — It has paid me in other ways — &

the money was of secondary importance
 Prof. Lesqueroux of Columbus has been very useful
 to me in giving the Carboniferous horizons of West
 United States — In return I have sent him some
 fossil botany — and especially all the works of Binney
 and Williamson — the recent Scotch Survey Palace
 tology — very good — Williamson has just

given 6 charming lectures on Botany at the Royal
 Institution (at about £10 a lecture I believe) could
 not you? — He also on the 25th Inst gave a long
 viva voce explanation of investigations into the
 development of the Petiole — followed by very elaborate
 & prolonged discussion by Carruthers & distinguished
 Botanist.

whose name I have forgot —
 Here an elderly & sickly man is ranking very high
 just now — The Royal Society Medal last year was
 rescued with the greatest difficulty from their for
 F. Davidson — I should like to see you leave
 about. Little bits of quarrelling break out in the
 R. S. — just now; with Piaggio Smith —