

Perth Dec 11th 1875

J W Dawson & L L O
Montreal

Dear Sir

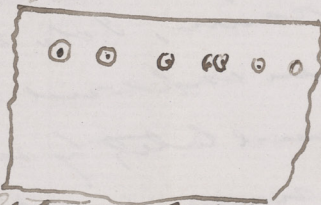
I owe you many thanks for your reply to my letter and still more for your most interesting book which I have enjoyed much. - I shall now try and repay you for your kindness, first by paying you as full an amount as I can of the Weynes Bogoon and secondly by sending you early next week large samples. - In order to fully satisfy myself of the correctness of my first impressions I went out again today although the snow is rather deep, and obtained some additional facts which I will now try and embody. - The locality where the Bogoon occurs, I do not think has ever been explored except by Dr Wilson and lately by myself, it is a rather narrow strip of country comparatively undisturbed although there are several small areas

of evident subsidance, now occupied
 by lakes. - The bottom instead of
 being in loose masses of limestone
 forms a perfectly distinct and
continuous reef, exactly as I can
 fancy a narrow coral reef of the
 present day. - It is about the center
 of a small plain with gentle
 undulations, and can now be traced
 on the surface with ease for about
 thirty feet and probably more, at
 a distance of about one hundred
 yards to the south is an abrupt
 descent to the bed of a small lake
 and on the verge of this is a thick
 deposit of serpentinite, at about
 two hundred yards to the north
 is a beautiful exposure of sand stone,
 which I think is probably Pittsburg, with
 one of the best cleaved shale lenses
 I have ever seen. This rock is about
 thirty feet in thickness and very
 silicious, and on the top, which is
 tolerably level, are numerous large
 blocks of the same material, of very

very

special interest in my humble
 opinion, as they contain the most
 remarkable fossils I ever met with
 being, at least I feel perfectly
 convinced nothing else than
 "sea anemones" perfectly replaced
 by sand. - I send you two with the
 other fossils but partly owing to the
 want of proper tools I could not
 get a piece of rock to show them
 as I would have liked. - The mode
 of occurrence is something like the
 rough sketch below, the holes
 being say an inch in diameter
 and 1/2 an inch in depth, and the
 hollowed "anemone"? about 1/4 of an
 inch in diameter and very distinct

My drawing is not specially good
 but is not
 stone as I
 before I



unlike the
 saw it today
 commenced to

try and get a slice of it taken
 off, and in which I was only

partially successful. I have never
 seen anything like this before
 and only hope I may have added
 another link to the information
 already possessed. - Standing
 at the "Eggon" reef and looking
 at the sandstone and then
 assuming my position I felt
 I was standing on what had been
 the bed of a shallow and probably
 stony lake or arm of the sea
 with a reef of the ancient animal
 at my feet and what had been
 its bank unconcerned at looker
 in front of me. - I should much
 like, if you think my specimens
 worth the trouble, if you could come
 here for one day even in the early
 spring, and I should be most
 happy to take you out to one or two
 places besides this that I think have
 a strong bearing on this subject. -
 I have omitted I find to mention
 that not far from the Eggon and
 parallel to it is a vein or vein

of very fossil crystalline limestone
 of which I also send samples. - The
 odor rapidly disappears on exposure
 and I cannot but think that it may
 possibly derive its odor from the
 decayed matter of this old fossil.

I should also mention that having
 roughly polished a large specimen
 of the serpentine, intended for
 Philadelphia, I find under my
 pocket flint a very great resemblance
 to figure 21 in your book, in fact
 the whole mass seems to be made
 up of fossil fragments. - I may
 add that I am by no means sure
 of the sandstone being Potsdam as
 it bears a different appearance from
 any Potsdam I am acquainted with
 and I have been unable to find any
 traces of "Scolithus" in it. It is
 also from this mass that Dr. Wilson
 many years ago discovered what

what

he claimed was the trunk of a
Palm tree. - There are however
several curious blocks of the
stone containing holes evidently
bored by marine animals
larger than the "ammonites"? and
which deserve further examination.

I have now transacted my errand
on your train and will only add
that having returned to Perth to
make minerals my business
I hope next season to be able
to send you some rare ones for
the museum. - I shall be glad
to learn that the specimens I send
about Tuesday, will be of some
use to you.

Yours truly

W. Morris

I sought to explain when I said "back of
County was comparatively undisturbed"
that immediately to the west, the whole
region is one "heap" of gneiss and hills
in frightful confusion. -

Marie
Dec 1/48