

New York State Museum

ESTABLISHED 1840

Albany Oct 10 1890

Mr Dawson

My Dear Sir

Your favor of the 8th inst. in regard to the section of wood sent by me has been received. I shall take advantage of your kind suggestion to send you in a few days the specimen from which this section was made as well as some other fragments from the Stylida layer. The little stems such as that which furnished this section have a different look than the woods found more abundantly in this layer & the majority of which, perhaps all that I have yet found, are presumably ^{resembling} to the species of *Dadoxylon* described by you. The small stems however are very rare, (I send you two of three specimens collected by me this summer and all that I have seen) and they appear to have the pith-axis or its pelling of remarkably great size. In the ordinary specimens of *Dadoxylon* this is, so far as I have observed very small, often scarcely observable. Should the fossil woods of this layer prove to be all of the same species, it is remarkable how abundant its growth must

attention. Please give me your opinion of them. Make such use of them
as you may wish and unless you desire to retain them kindly
have them returned. The specimens sent, please retain. We have in our

Museum collection an immense specimen of *Lepidodendron* taken from
the Naples bed. It is 12 or more feet in length, mirroring downward toward the
roots which are preserved. It looks to me as though it embraced about ~~to~~
half-dozen species, as currently described, and two genera *Lepidodendron*
Trigillaria. I wish you could find an opportunity of examining it.

I am very desirous that a full discussion of it should be prepared for publication
in our Museum bulletins, but I am not expert in palaeobotany & could not
handle it. Does it offer any inducement to you?

Believe me Sir

Very truly yours

Wm. Clark

Asst. in Charge Palaeontological Dept
N.Y.S. Museum

Accept my thanks for
your paper on New Enai & Carbon-
iferous plants which I have
read with profit

have been. Cords of it are to be found
in the outcrops of this layer. I have recently
prepared some brief notes on the geological
value of this fauna of the Styrida layer, which
are in press in one of the German periodicals.
It appears that this stratum bears the an-
assemblage of fossils comparable in all respects
to that of the Goniatiten- or Intumescent Kalk
of the lower upper Devonian of Germany & Devon,
that after its disappearance & the return of the
normal fauna of the bituminous Genesee shales,
it reappeared as the Naples fauna (Castaqua =
= Gardan) very greatly augmented in species
& individuals. It is however almost wholly
in ^{the} Styrida layer that the fossil woods appear.
I would be very glad to learn if any comparable
species of *Dadoxylon* has been identified from
a corresponding horizon in any part of Europe.
I enclose with this letter two figures (rather rough)
of specimens from the bituminous bands which
alternate with the greenish shales in the
lower portion of the Naples beds. They have
both been drawn (the *Lepidodendron* with much
more care than the other) by keeping the black
shale moist with turpentine & catching the direct
light of the sun upon them. Otherwise the fossils
are so obscure that they ought not attract

have been. Cones of it are to be found
 in the strata of this layer. Their recent
 prepared some (but not in the geological
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 are found in one of the common fossils.
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Prof Clarke
 Dec 1/1890