



GEOLOGICAL & NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY,
Alfred R. C. Selwyn, C.M.G., L.L.D., F.R.S., Director.
MUSEUM AND OFFICE, SUSSEX ST., OTTAWA.

1.
Feb. 20th 1889.

To Sir William Dawson C.M.G., &c.

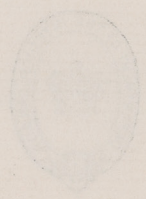
Dear Sir,

My friend the Rev. G. W. Taylor (formerly of Victoria, V. I., but now resident at Billings' Bridge, near Ottawa) tells me that there is at present so much sickness among his parishioners that he will not be able to get away so as to come down with me to-morrow, as he intended. I am very sorry that this should be the case, but hope that on some future occasion, when the days are longer, you will kindly allow him to compare some of his specimens of Vancouver shells, especially Chitons, with some of Dr. Carpenter's types in the Peabody Museum.

As this was one of the objects I had in coming down, viz., to visit the Museum with Mr Taylor, & as I do not care to come down alone, especially at this time of year, I am afraid I shall not be able to be at the conversazione of the N. H. S. to-morrow evening, as I had hoped to be able to do.

It seems to me that the specimens of Obolella from Metis do not exactly agree with any of Billings'

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species, that is judging by his types in our Museum.

This genus has, however, been subdivided by Ford, Walcott, Matthew Sothers, on this side of the Atlantic, as well as by paleontologists on the other, & quite a number of new forms have recently been described & figured.

I have not been working at Cambrian (or Primordial) fossils lately, & consequently have not the rather extensive literature of the subject, & more particularly that which relates to the Oboloid forms, at my finger's ends. Professor James Hall, by the way, is preparing an illustrated monograph on these & allied brachiopodous forms, as I learn from letters recently received from him.

Very truly yours,

J. F. Whiteaves.