

P.S. I am not sure that
we are there I have met
with anything like the plant
in figure from Arms at least in
or far as the sketches show. MS

McGill College.

Montreal.

April 11, 1897

Mr. William Dawson (2)
My dear Prof. Williamson,

Canada

I thank you
very much for your letter
and the slice enclosed,
which shows very well
what I would call
the most perfect kind
of Lepidodendron structure,
and which but for
the better development
of the woody cylinder
in Syllaria, comes
very near if not quite
up to the lowest
type of the latter.

7/10/-

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You should observe how
low that your Lepidodendron
is perfectly ex-
ogenous, and therefore
enters into that general
type which leads up
to the highest plants.
The remarkable thing
is that a plant with
such a stem should produce
spores, rather than that
~~stems~~ ^{stems} of a little will
perfect should produce
seeds. This I think would
be Grand'bury's point. As
for me, I do not doubt

^{truly}
the creagenous character
of the stems of all
lyellian and some
Lepidodendron, and
that some of the
forms approach very
close to each other.

I am sure that
we have unappreciated
your position about
Calamostachys. I confess
that I did not turn up
your memoir, but took
the reference from Grand'bury
& from memory.

As to the Calamites,
some more facts must

clean up that mystery.
Perhaps the *Carlumodendron*
& *Colanites* run into
each other like the
Spillane & *Lepidodendron*;
but it does not look so
with the facts I can get
here.

As to *Dadoxylon*, I do
not think that Grand'bay
shows any conclusive evidence
that it belonged to *Cordaites*,
I have (see my Report on Prince
Edward Island) as good
evidence at least that
Dadoxylon & *Walchia* are
identical. ~~It~~ Here again
however we have the
old difficulty. Corda's *Cordaites*
brachifolia has a stem

into a simple cylinder of
scalaniform tissue. Some of
Grand'bay's specimens seem
much more complicated;
or there seems either a
running close together of
diverse types, or one very
multiform group. I suspect
the former. There seems
indeed in the Carboniferous a
vast variety of species & genera
huddling about the limits
of *Cryptogonum* & *Gymnosperrum*.
My mind however resolves them-
selves if we had a little
more light. Your work in
structure is giving much;
and there is much more
material to work up. I have
been having all my specimens
of *Dadoxylon* from all parts
of America beautifully sliced



by Weston, and name was
pieces of at least 50 distinct
bricks (three ^{slips} each). O! for
time to examine and
draw them.

You ask about Gray.
He is clever & vivacious; but
I fear not judicious, and
he is evidently rather re-
pelling many of the
better kind of people.
I hope he may tone down
a little with time.

I am chained to
the college oak till the
end of this month. Then
I may hope to have a
little time to look at
my specimens again.

Yours truly

J. D. Davenport