

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 2211/57
REF. 16

W. J. MCGEE,

U.S.
Farley, Iowa, Oct. 20th, 1877.

Dr. J. W. Dawson, Principal McGill
University, Montreal, Can.

Dear Sir: I am making arrangements to have the State (of Iowa) authorize me to make a geological and archaeological survey of the eastern third of the State. If I succeed I desire to publish a complete report of the survey which will be a standard scientific work, and thoroughly reliable. To this end I will require the assistance of specialists in geology, paleontology, and archaeology; all of whom will be duly credited in the publication, as the names of noted specialists attached to the parts of the report due to their labors will enhance the value of the work.

Now I should like to have a little assistance from you, but believing that your time must be pretty fully occupied, I shall not trouble you much. I should like to have

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W. J. McGeE,

Farley, Iowa,187

you "work up" the fossils etc. from a highly fossiliferous shale underlying the Potsdam Sandstone in the northwestern part of the State.

As I do all work at my own expense, and only expect to be reimbursed by the State for cost of publication alone, I can promise no remuneration; but should you think it advisable - in view of the proposed report - to have drawings made, I should be glad to have them made under your supervision at my expense.

I should be pleased to hear from you soon - though no fossils will be sent for some time - as I desire to complete my arrangements before the next session of the General Assembly.

I take pleasure in referring you - as to the genuineness of the project - to His Excellency Gov. Newbald, and all Senators and Representatives from this part of the State.

Hoping to hear from you, I am,
Yours truly,
W. J. McGeE.