



Reply
to Langmans

McGill College.

Montreal

Nov 23, 1897

Gentlemen,

In reply to yours
of Nov 2, to Messrs Oliver
and Boyd, forwarded by
them to me, I beg to state
that my idea was to
prepare a work which
might form one of your
"Text-books of Science", some
of which I have seen,
and like better than
most other English Text-
books I have seen.

The work would
be a "Text-book of Practical
Geology" and would

Course of the following
departments.

I Lithology - a course
to study rocks on hand
specimens

II, Petrology & Stratigraphy
- a course to study rocks
on the large scale in
the field.

III, Palaentology &
Chronological Geology, or How
to study the succession of
formations and of forms
of life.

This plan united
under the whole ground
of geology as a practical
study, and united I

think with good educators
supercede the imperfect &
unpractical books now
in general use. The matter
of it is all in rough
manuscript as used
by me in my lectures
& students for many
years, and could be
prepared for the printer
in a few months
or say to be ready early
next winter.

As to illustrations,
I have at my command
between 200 & 300 good
cuts used in previous

publications and of
which electrots. could
be had. In addition
to these about 50
cuts would be
required in say 100
if they could be
afforded. For these
drawings or copies
from foreign works
would be furnished.
Probably there may be
some cuts of fossils
at your disposal
which would save
a part of the expense

for new cuts. Those
chiefly wanted would
be of fossils of the
mesozoic and later
periods

As a lecturer on
Geology for the past
twenty years I have
found reason to deplore
the want of a good
text-book as distinct
gathered from the loose
and local summaries
of chronological Geology
which are chiefly at
present. I should be

