

Chatfield

Syracuse Jan 14th 1881
J. W. Dawson Esq

Dear Sir,

I have your
Box of fossils ready for
shipment & had expected to
have heard from you by this
time in relation to manner
of shipment whether by express
or freight

I have selected for you
two hundred species & I do
not know of a collection in the
State (private collection) that is
better represented in the upper
Silurian + Devonian periods
I speak of the quality of the fossils
& its varied range covering a
large portion of our State, of

course you will not expect to
much from such formations
as the Briskany Sandstone &
Scholarie Grit where it is very
difficult to obtain the fossils
until the rock is so weathered
as to impair the quality of
the fossils & especially so the
Scholarie Grit

I send you two
of the *Homalonotus DeKeyi*
one large & the other small
showing the uniformity of the
old & young these are entire
although rarely found except
in fragments of heads & tails
I send you also a *Eurypterus*
resimpes good for this extremely
rare fossil

if you could send
me a *Paradoxides Harlani*
I should esteem it very highly

I send you such Specimens
as are found in the Catskill group
& the only two fossil life cypricardites
Angusta & the cypricardites Catskill
ensis the latter about half of
the fossil or a little more but
even this would be considered
the rarest fossil of our whole
New York System

I have sent you a
very few coarse pieces perhaps
half a dozen which I would not
have sent had they have been
for a private collection

I send you two Gypsum
crystals found (says Hall) only
in Germany but we discovered
a small pocket of them about
ten miles from our city

I also send you some
gypsum crystals formed in
our salt flats the first crystallized

from the water with Iron enough
in the water to color them it
takes about four years to
form them & it is only now
& then that we are able to get
them as good as those I send
you we are constantly receiving
letters for them all over the
country

please write me by
return mail how you
will prefer to have them
shipped

Yours truly

D. Chatfield

73 Gifford St

Syracuse

NY