

Albany, Sept. 27th 1882

My Dear Dr. Dawson

I received your postcard and the fossil "Spirophyton"! and ought I have acknowledged the receipt before this time -

The fossil is quite inexplicable to me - It is not a Spirophyton, nor any relative of that group of fossils - It is distinctly articulated and the appearance on one side might be taken for a trilobite and it is difficult to convince oneself that it is not of that class of fossils, but the other side does not quite correspond - Along the convex side there is a row of nodes - a node on each alternate articulation - It cannot be, though it has much the appearance of, a cephalopod - for the articulations

are furrowed on one side
and not on the other - The two
sides being unequal -

On one side however there are
some longitudinal striae -
apparently interrupted striae
which remind one of the cephal-
opod markings, on the *Cyrtoceras*
of Europe and which we know
little in this country - There
is however an example in
my last Vol. V. pl. xcx fig 8 -

The fossil I care most to see
~~was~~ is the one named by Mr.
Wright = *Equisetites* - He has
cut up your plate & given the
stem to be done in wood cut
which is extremely difficult
to do from a lithographic figure
- If I had the original for the
use of the engraver Wright
make something out of it -
- Mr Wright's paper is not a finished
work and it has to be made over

in some degree -

Is it practicable for me to
see the Equisetites? - Otherwise
I think I must have the figure
lithographed -

I return you the key
of the case which you gave
me & let my specimens -
When I went over to the Museum
your man had taken all
my specimens down stairs
preparatory for packing - and
having no use for the key
I forgot it

I hope you have recovered
from the fatigue of your
summer exertions and of
the meeting -

Please give my regards to
your family & believe me
Very sincerely yours
James Hall

Hall
Sept 82