

Matthew  
Saint John N.B.  
20 April 1885

My dear Sir Wm

I am much indebted  
ed for your suggestions  
relative to dividing and  
naming our Cambrian.  
I know it is better to make  
haste slowly, and I am not  
yet prepared to name the  
sections of the formation  
on account of uncertainty  
about the Summit. There  
is no question about the base,  
the difficulty is in reference  
to the summit, and this can

not be cleared up until  
the fossils of the second great  
belt of black slates shall  
have been studied; or until  
~~a~~ considerable field work  
has been performed to trace  
the extension of the hard band;  
both should be done to  
have the divisions fixed  
with certainty. As you may  
imagine I have very little  
time for field-work ~~and~~ altho'  
living on the ground as it were  
for a score of years — the cus-  
tom House mill grind slowly,  
but it grinds surely — every  
day — but Sunday — and that  
is not a day for field work  
with one.



Divisions 0 + 1. I could  
name, but the rest must  
wait. I think I told you  
that the fossils I have show  
that the St John formation  
does not run higher than  
Arenaic and is probably  
purely Cambrian (i.e. "First  
Fauna") I shall bring you  
some fossils if I go up as  
I expect to Ottawa in May,  
but I may not be able to  
include in them any of those  
collected last summer, but  
I will try and carry out you  
wishes, by selecting from  
these as well as the old ones  
which are now set aside  
for you.

The paper by Walcott  
describing the Hart Collection  
at Cornell is No 10  
of the Bulletin of the U.S.  
Geological Survey -

I fear that I shall not  
be able to stop at Montreal  
on my way to Ottawa as I  
have to economize time and  
will leave here on the Monday  
evening before the opening  
and thus will be a day and  
a half behind the day you  
begin. Our delegates will  
probably be (Nat. Hist. Soc.)  
present at the opening.

Hoping to meet you at  
the time named I remain

Yours very truly G. F. Matthew