

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Sir William Dawson

WASHINGTON

Apr 9/87

McGill Univ, Montreal Canada

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 4th was duly rec'd. As regards Turne's shells I may say that they were very few in number and largely in poor condition, but there will be no difficulty in supplying you with all the species mentioned for inspection and with all except the Aquilonaria and Mar. umbilicalis for "keeps" as the boys say. Of these last we have only a few specimens. Of course the Sellina tenera is an entirely different thing as you remark from Leach's Macoma tenera but if the genus Macoma is not considered sufficiently distinct to

I will try to put up the shells for you shortly.

warrant the employment of the same specific name in both, it will be Say's species which must change its name.

The Chrys. spitzbergensis you have fine specimens of, from Metis, and some years ago gave me one or two. An attempt has been made to divide the species but I cannot consider it warranted by the large series I have studied.

I feel entirely as you do about the Chiton paper, and will do all I can to assist any student who will edit it for publication, but I am fairly "swamped" with work and I could not undertake it myself unless I were furnished with a stenographer, or more assistance in my administrative work.

Yours very truly

Wm. H. Dall

Dall