

Paterson, May 15th, 1858

Dear Sir William Dawson

Mr. M. came today
and I have looked it through
carefully. The evidence you
produce relative to the association
of the resin and Chenotaphyllum
certainly points very strongly in
the direction of their possible
connection with one another.
If the now missing link should
ultimately establish their
identity, Chenotaphyllum would
indeed prove to be unique. In
the absence of positive proof of
their connection, my difficulty
is at present, in connecting so
low a type of structure with
a resin producing plant.
If, as I think I may, I can

Succeed in gaining some
more light on the question
of foliage, and show a
relation between the plant,
our laminated fossil and
Cordaia angustifolia, much
will be accomplished towards
clearing up this difficulty.

With your suggestion that
Stemtophyton is probably
the culmination of a type
of vegetation extending back
towards the Laurentian, I
think we must agree.

Other than these points,
I believe there is nothing
which we have not already
discussed.

I return the P.S. by this
mail in case you should
require it before going to
Ottawa.

Mr. Purbolton joins in
kind regards to yourself, Lucy
and Miss Dawson

With cordial respects
D. P. Purbolton

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May 1888