

(Dictated.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1890.

Sir J. William Dawson,  
Montreal, Canada.

My dear Sir:

I have completed my review of the Olenellus or Lower Cambrian fauna, and I am now taking up the Upper Cambrian or Potsdam fauna. In this connection I am bringing together all the species that have been described, that I can obtain. I have material from various parts of the United States and a considerable amount from Canada. I now particularly wish to obtain a good representation of the fauna from the conglomerate of Point Levis. I recall seeing, in your Museum, a number of the species described by Mr. Billings, and I write to ask if you have duplicates of any of them? I do not refer to the graptolites, but to the fossils which came from the limestone conglomerate. I find that in the lower bed of conglomerate, there is a considerable fauna that is strictly of Upper Cambrian age. This fauna occurs in limestone boulders that are imbedded in a limestone paste, which carries the Calciferous fauna.

I wish to illustrate all of Mr. Billings' species, and, also, to obtain as far as possible representatives of the species for our

National Museum collection. If you have any duplicate specimens that you can spare, I will send you other material in return for them. I hope ~~soon~~ to send you shortly a cast of the Ohio trilobite, showing its legs, and, when I work up the Paradoxides fauna of Newfoundland, will also send you a series of species from there.

If I remember correctly, you had some duplicate specimens of Menocephalus salteri. This is a species that I should very much like to obtain an entire specimen of, for the purpose of illustrating it. All of the figures of Mr. Billings' species in his "Palaeozoic Fossils", are too poor to copy.

Any assistance that you may give me in this work, will be fully appreciated.

Trusting that "la Grippe" has not interfered with you, and that all is going well with your work, I remain,

Truly yours,

Charles D. Walcott,

