

Dear Sir

I have received your note of Sept 16, and take the earliest opportunity of thanking you for the copies of the paper in the Geol. Journal. They will be very useful. With respect to copies to be left in Boston, as I have no personal acquaintance with any of the U.S. geologists, I must leave this to yourself, with thanks for your kind offer. I have already ordered the Journal, and have received nos 1 & 2, but have not yet seen No 3. I was much pleased by finding from Mr Browns Papers, that the facts collected by him agreed so well with your views, and with my observations here. I was surprised to find the Journal so well got up, and illustrated, at a price so low.

I have your "Travels", and am delighted with the earnest and philo-

Sophical manner in which you treat
of customs and institutions on this side
of the Atlantic. I only wish there had been
more of it, especially with respect to the
Colonies. I have besides got from it a much
better general view of the geology of the
United States than I could obtain from
the detached works I had previously seen;
and it will give the geologists of the U States better
ideas of this Province, as I see by late nos
of Lilliman's Journal, that Jackson and others
very lately referred to our Gypsiferous form
as new red Sandstone.

I have had an excursion into the
Country south of the Pecten rivers, and have
found a continuous tract of Sandstones,
conglomerates & shales with a few plants,
stretching from the conglomerates of the gut of
Causse to the Gypsiferous series of Musquodoboite
and Steviacke, through the heart of ferns
Pruney & clay slate district. This you know I
previously believed to exist, though it was till this
summer unexamined by geologists. It is bounded
on the south by quartzite & granite, & on the north

by a ridge of altered Silurian & Carboniferous
rocks. Map - Separating it from the Devon deposits.
This ridge I ascertained to extend from near
Brookfield to the Menzoniish Mountains in this
county, and thence ~~to~~ in two branches to
Cape St George & Cape Porcupine in the gut of Cairns.
You will see from this that the Hypozene
rocks occupy too much space on the published
maps. While speaking of maps I may men-
tion that in the large one in your 'Travels', Peter
and the Albion Mines are placed more than
30 miles West of their true position, and north
of the Cobeguid Mts; which somewhat mystifies
some parts of the descriptions ^{in other respects your map of}
_{Eastern or Scotia is good; much}
_{better than Seney's}

I have had another search for Ichno-lites,
but found no new ones. I found however
Coprolites and coal plants in the beds in
which the former tracks were discovered.

Another discovery of last summer is that
of a small bed of gypsum, with a thin limestone
containing some of the Lower Carboniferous shells,
in Sandstones full of calamites & ~~coal~~ Carboniferous
wood, and belonging to the lower part of the New
coal formation. The shells may possibly have
been shifted from older beds, but no evidence of this
appears.

I have also found a poplar stump with Stigmara attached as roots. It has a wrinkled bark and an internal axis corresponding to that of Stigmara, and seeming to have sent out bundles of fibres or vessels into the surrounding wood. If you think that notices or specimens of any of these things would be worth sending to the Geol. Society, you could perhaps write a few lines to inform me to whom it would be best to send them, as in your absence I have no geological friend in London.

By way of a novelty, we have had the celebrated Sea Serpent in the Gulf of St Lawrence during the summer. Its latest appearance was at Mengonist, where a specimen was very nearly stranded, and got off with some difficulty. It is described as a serpent-like animal 200 feet long, having an obtuse head, resembling in shape that of a seal. It was seen to bend its body almost into a circle, and also to move in vertical undulations. It raised its head above water, and retained it in that position for 15 minutes. I wonder what the naturalists of Europe would give for a specimen. If he remains long in the Gulf, he will run no small risk of being driven ashore in some of our autumnal storms.

John & Co
Sept 1845