

A. Colley Oct. 15. (46

My dear Sir,

Your kind favour of August 1st came to hand soon after date, which I should have answered immediately had I not written to you shortly before, when also your pamphlets which you kindly lent me were sent, through Mr. McKinlay. I was the less desirous also of writing at that time as I did not feel myself prepared to send you the specimens requested. I have now packed a box for you, which I shall send in a few days to your address, and to the care of Mr. Ferguson, Halifax, who, I doubt not, will get it on in some Picton vessel without giving you any trouble. I have put up for you a number of geological specimens which were sent to me from Newfoundland, which I thought, however void of interest scientifically, you might wish to have, as showing what the geological character of the Island is. Sufficiently unpromising it surely is for the habitation of man in the greater part of it. These specimens are in relation to those sent to me duplicates and were procured and labelled by Mr. Sikes, who conducted their Geological Survey. Of his publication on the subject I have now a duplicate, which, if I had thought of it, I might have put in your box, and if you wish, will send to you at some future time. I do not know that it has any attractions any farther than that it shows what the geological features of the country are. These are hard and forbidding

Letter Oct 16
to Mr. Ferguson

Certainly, but it is a desideratum of course to know of every portion of the Globe its geological characteristics. I have also put in a few of the fossils which I have had for some time belonging to the Province. I do not know whether they will possess interest or not for you. Some are from Sydney. I expect shortly a number of the Soggin's fossils, some of which possibly you may wish to have. If I had knowledge and time sufficient to arrange my geological specimens from abroad, I doubt not it would supply me with duplicates which would be of use to you. Having now a number of boxes of minerals ready for my correspondents abroad, in return for which I am expecting geological specimens, as well as others, which with those I now have will be altogether likely to give me duplicates, I should be glad, on my own account, and I presume it might be well for you, to lay aside some for you, with the hope that you may be able to supply yourself with geological specimens from different parts of the Province which would be of interest to me ^{in return.} My aim is to build up a cabinet representing, as far as can be expected, the Geology and Mineralogy of the Globe, but I feel especially interested in the geology and mineralogy of this country, and particularly the former. If I can do any thing for you in foreign geological specimens, and I doubt not I can, and you for me with the same for N. Scoten, it may turn out to be a desirable exchange. I wish the same remark

also to apply to minerals, should this be mutually agreeable. I have placed in your box if I remember rightly some foreign minerals. I also added some of the Blomidon and Two Island specimens, such as I suppose may be acceptable.

As to returns, you know I was already indebted to you, and I wish you to send a full suite of whatever you get from the Eastern part of the Province, whether geological or mineralogical. You need not be afraid of duplicates, whether as related to former parcels, or among themselves, in any which you may now send, as I can dispose of them to others. The minerals which you name would I think be very acceptable, as not occurring at all in this part, I mean those from St. Pauls. I have a few pieces of excellent B. Hematite from the Shubenacadie and East. Have you a supply of this good? Have you ever obtained Iceland Spar from the Gulf Shore? I do not know the precise spot, but it is found there very fine. Have you any of the Colchester Specular Iron? I expect some shortly. I should be much interested in any well defined fossils which you can procure from any part of the Country, not excepting our own neighbourhood, since the names accompanying might be advantageous in cases when I am at a loss. I feel desirous in fact of having in possession without delay first rate representatives of the entire geology and mineralogy of this Country with names attached. I doubt not you have the same wish, at least

in relation to Geology. What we can do to aid each other in such a design may be of importance to ourselves and to others.

Have you acquaintance with Mr Brown of Sydney? Is he resident now at Sydney? I mean I think the gentleman who had charge at Bridgeport. Is he the person named in your Geological Journals? Could you through him or otherwise obtain a full suite of the Sydney fossils in good order for me with convenience? This I should much like, as well as to extend my acquaintance with C. B. beyond Sydney, by means of minerals or fossils. Have you ever thought of a trip to Labrador? It is said to be rich in minerals. From a description given by a young man here I should take it to be a Trap district. It may be interesting geologically. It is almost unknown in either light. What say you to a joint expedition there some time in my summer vacations - July and August? I presume we might go in some of the fishing vessels with little expense, and not much loss of time. I merely name this for consideration, though I cannot say I am very serious in intention, however strong in desire.

You see my many words have shut out the most important part of your letter - The Obsidian looking specimen of you speak of is from Cape D. or. I have been trying for some time to get its name from Am. Correspondents, but have not succeeded. It is at the top of the Cliff under the soil - The uptile tracks you speak of are worthy of consideration in connection with the

Bluff, must have reference in your memory, I suppose, to an impression in shale which I showed you, and came from the Joggins — Geon's mention of Ameydeloid as occurring on the road to Halls Harbour I am not prepared to comment upon, not having examined the locality. It may be well for you to know, that Halls Harbour, and other points on the Bay show where vessels resort, have no abrupt elevation of the rocks, so that cropping out might readily occur a short distance back. — I have never heard of fossils having been found in the Cornwallis sandstone — The first point which you name, (I have reversed their order as in considering them) which respects the connection subsisting between the greenstone and Ameydeloid of Blomidon, whether it be any thing more than that of juxtaposition, I have not directed my attention to when I have been on the spot. I have not been there since the receipt of your letter. The points which you name are all doubtless important for decision.

I am very glad that you succeeded so much to your satisfaction in this district, and hope the results may be important for their utility.

I should like you to acknowledge the Pamphlets if received.

I observe you call in question Geon's designation of mudstone by placing after them (Scolozite?). Algeri Phillips does not give the latter a distinct place, but blends it in the former, & confesses many of these (descriptive) minerals to have confusion in their names, more or less.

This I find to be the case, and think I have some varieties which possibly are not adequately represented by the books, at least not satisfactory altogether to myself, so I get over trouble by using Mesotype as a general name — I observe Ankerite is put down as quite limited in its localities. You do not mean I presume St. Pauls on the Labrador Coast. This is the island which has the famous Labradorite.

I may have asked you the question before, but should be glad to know if you know parties in Edinburgh who would be likely to wish good N. S. minerals, and give others in exchange.

Excuse length and believe me

Yrs sincerely
Isaac Chipman

dam

J. W. Dawson Esq

Pictou.

— 2 —

