

William
Sturtevant
Fallowfield.
Manchester Nov 5th 1887

My Dear Sir

I have been busy all the early part of this evening making preparations of your two fossils of *Dadoxylon*. They both contain true Coniferous disks - but in both the specimens I find them to be of the type represented in Fig 3c of my memoir on *Exogenous stems* - & which is so common amongst the Cread. The central spot goes obliquely across the disk and is obviously related to spiral tissue - in the way explained in the memoir. I have not yet found anything like it amongst any English Coal-plants -

I enclose a fragment of
Pectyoxylon Oldhamium. It
is a segment of the woody
Cylinder - as you will see
at each end of the specimen;
Vertical sections, made in the
Plane of the Medullary Rays
Especially, will show you the
reticulate structure. It is very
rare to find this structure so
clear as in the specimen
which I figured - but the
difference is only the result
of mineralization and not
an original one - I have
not tried the experiment but
I imagine that if you adopt
your plan of decalcification.

You will bring the tissue
out well - since the large
cuts are filled with a
semi-opaque carbonate of
lime which somewhat
obscures the reticulations. -

Before this reaches you my
last note will have
arrived along with an
abstract of a description
of a new Calcareous Cone.
As soon as the paper is
printed I will send you a
copy of it - as also of another
which is already printed
but of which I have not
yet got my copies, an

Some remarkable forms
of Cycadean fructification
I have just received a
note from my co-labourer
Butterworth from which
I suspect we have at
least got the bark of a
Calamopites or of a Calam
Dendron — I have not
yet studied the specimens, but
hope to do so in a few
days — I marvel at
your grand Devonian
Flora —

Ever sincerely yours

W. J. Williams