

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
ACC. NO. 2211	34
REF. 58	

McGill College.
Montreal.

May 8, 1871

My dear Sir,

The contents of the
enclosed and which you left
to-day is different from
anything I have before seen.
It is a mass of angular
fragments, many of which
are apparently bits of shells
one seems to be a piece
of *Tetradium* or *Scleropora*
and some have a transverse
stratified & tubular structure
like that of *Frammifer*
shells. The parts has in
places quantities of irregular
pieces like sponges; but I
do not know that they

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is organic. It looks like
a bituminous organic lime
stone somewhat water
impregnated, and in this
respect approaches some
of the altered limestones
of the S. Groups of which
I have seen specimens.
Except the *Stenopora* like
fragment there is nothing
in the specimen that can
fix its age, and it might
even be a breccia made
up of fragments of older rocks.
One might perhaps make some
thing more of it with an
opportunity to examine uncut specimens
and pick out likely pieces.

I went today to Auckland
and to Leggo & Co about the
fossil plants. I found that
the Photo-lithography though
somewhat cheaper will not
do well, except for a few of
the Coarser figures. I find
that Reinholdt also is the best
man we have for such work
is employed at the Leggo
establishment, and will draw
the illustrations at \$20 each
— the printing costing \$1.50 cts per
100 copies including paper. Some
Carroll's men will do the
drawing on stone for \$15 but
I think not so well. These
rates are somewhat higher
than I had supposed; but
I can reduce the price

expensive plates to say
about 17, and can do
3 or four myself on transfer
paper which will save
the drawings, and in this
way will keep the whole
amount under \$600 -
I suppose 1000 to be the sum
to be repaid, and I should
wish to have 100 for myself
for distribution, for the printing
of which I would pay.

With regard to the
letter-press, of which I have
a rough copy written out, ready
to be transcribed, it will
occupy say 50 pages of the
size of your reports. I
send with this the first
copy of ten pages which

will show you the
materials and plan,
I shall call for them
when next in town.

If you approve of this
I shall get a specimen
plate drawn for your
inspection.

I saw Mr. Jenkins
to-day, and he hopes
to send to you
Columbian expedition,
the second fully in-
spect with the view
of a similar grant for the
purpose.

A. C. Selwyn & H. S.

Truly yours
W. Dawson

copy to
Selwyn
May 14