

Caruthers

July 1/71

British Museum

5 July 1871

My dear Dr Dawson -

I have been for more than a year and a half engaged in preparing a description of the Fishes of the Islands of the Pacific Ocean - and in connexion with this having arranged our collections of these fishes - This work was so continually being interrupted that I could not get top all other work until it was finished - I am expecting the last sheets from the printer every day - It was this that prevented me going in, as I intended, more carefully for the examination of your Protozoa. My invocation as to my return of it - affinites was made in a general paper on the Nature and Affinities of

are external to the tubes and are produced by a second tubular structure

4. The somewhat amorphous spaces called by you medullary rays contain scattered irregular though thin single tubes; they are not defined structures, and there is nothing to indicate their nature -

5. The roundish spots which are to be seen in some tubes are stains in the walls, as can be seen when one is found in section -



It is possible there may be the places where the smaller tubes originate from the larger but of this I cannot be certain - If you

have access to Kützings Phycologia Generalis and will examine the Codices there especially his figure of Stalimeda Opercular

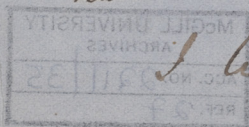
Tab 43 p. 2. you will see what seems to me to explain some of the peculiarities of your remarkable fossil -

I do hope you will not re-publish it as a Coniferous genus, and that before you issue your plate you will examine the points to which

I have referred, and correct the
plate - It is a very remarkable
fossil - and deserves to be
well described - I think too
the wall-structure of the tubes
might be given - whether that is
dependent on microradiation
or not may be a question - I
fancy it is really the indication
of the structure -

I hope you will excuse my
plainness of writing - I have shown
the prepared specimens to several
careful botanists who have special-
ly directed themselves to structural
botany, and not one of them can
see any foundation for your interpres-
tion - and although they could
not agree as to what it was,
the impression seemed to be
that it was an Alga -

I leave London tomorrow



right for Scotland - I hope to
spend some time in Thwait's had
working up the remarkable
deposit discovered by Mrs
Grier - And if I can manage
it I would like to prepare a
paper for the Association
on the nature and origin
of Coal in the same direction

as your last paper on Spore
Cases in Coal for which I
was much obliged to you.

Hayley has read the leading
public completely astray on
the subject of Coal -

On this
yours of the full
I am
Yours
truly
Yours

Dr Dawson

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