

as very interesting subject
I think you & others
will be interested
in a separate
fly sheet & I am
well & I hope
like love to not
about together. We
do not work to
thinking of Britain
I am sure
I am quite ashamed
of myself for allowing your kind letter
to remain so long unanswered.
I will not plead any excuse, but
just mention that as I had delayed
so long I put off till after the meeting
of the British Ass., hoping to have seen
Mr. Casruthers who was to remain
some time here. This pleasure has
not been & so I wait no longer. Since
his promotion he has had so much
to do he knows not how to turn. He has
spent a good deal of his holidays at
Kingham ex. a bed of coal overhelmed
with trap (Basalt) in which the wood &
partly matter has been so well preserved
that he is getting splendid microscopical
sections. This probably you already know.
I have been there - did not collect much
pure interested in having the bed from
the beach inland, & to see it fairly
in situ under the Basalt, this I succeeded
in & am much interested.

Yrs. Ever

Very faithfully
R. J. Smith

Place,
Dunelm.

I have been very busy indeed this Summer
& in the Spring I got at Falkirk in the
Autholithes bed a splendid stem of
Cordia ~~leaves~~ with the leaves attached,
15 inches in length 2 inches over, it is
flattened & shows the leaf scars beautifully.



They are of the shape of sketch & a little
larger & remind me in shape &
arrangement of those of Amacaria
imbricata, I am somewhat proud
of it. I got as well from ^{one} ~~some~~ ~~spot~~
other stems branched, which I think
belong to another Cordia leaf which
had embedded in it shining horse hair
like threads in its more delicate leaf-
the stem has similar threads. On Tuesday
last - I was at Haumanan & there
got Cordia flabellaria but not in
such fine condition nor abundance as
at Falkirk, & as well the thread like
one which was rare at Falkirk, but is
the prevailing one at Haumanan.
I also got similar stems but of very
much larger size broader than this sheet
is long & branched with thickish bark
& very plentiful - unfortunately the rock
was so frail & exposed to the weather the
specimens are not splendid - however
they will do well. I have another
fine stem which differs from all I ever
saw - it must be seen. I cannot at present
describe it beyond saying it reminds me of
a Palm.

With these I got a pretty *Sigillaria* & a beautiful little *Stigmaria* in shale with the roots radiating round it - it is a pretty cabinet specimen, it is surrounded with *Pecopteris* &c. I got many things there differing from the Falkirk finds. Nuts in abundance, but neither *Antholites* or *Leudicocarpus* & as at Falkirk not a vestige of *Lepidodendron* or fish - i.e. in the shales containing all the above - at other places in both localities - I mean other coal seams, *Lepidodendron*, fish &c &c. were not rare. I am getting some pretty things. Last week I got *Bechea grandis* stem. at a railway cutting near Hatfield, new to me. In fact my riches distress me, because I have so few books to refer to. I however hope to do something of them in the winter. I learned more from your *Acadia* than all the books I've had before & shall set it on my shelf. I hope before I am much older. Your papers & some of Mr. Carruthers will prove a valuable Vol. & are constantly referred to, the one on "the structure and affinities of *Sigillaria*" &c. came safe to me & is prized. A friend has shown me your last at the Geological. On new specimens I thank you much for your kindly notice of me. I regret however that you did not

see the large specimen of Cauloptera's Reichen
in the Edinb. Museum - the original, of which
the piece in Jenny's ! was only a fragment
you did not see the beautiful part



something of the shape of Sketch, which
although fig'd by Salter has since been
lost, I took great pains to recover it
but found it gone in Nov. last when I was
in London. I had the pleasure of seeing you

here then & there at Brit. Assn & sent you my
regards. I have no doubt that your

fig. 4. Pl. XII is much like in some
aspects C. Reichen & I am glad Treferus
are thus confirmed. The specimen I gave

you was for you to keep & to pray accept
of it - I have another. Do you know that

the British Museum has all my best
Old Red plants & I had hoped that some
notice w. have been published ere this.

At all times I shall be glad to let you
have any little thing that might help
you in your descriptions & I shall be

glad also to hear anything about Old
Red here - I purpose to read something to
the Botanical Soc. on Caithness prills

if all be well this winter - my time
cannot be long & so I must work hard
if spared to the last day of this month

I shall complete 47 years & what a
privilege to be able to say not yet in
labor & sorrow - although I have had

heavy grief in the loss of five sons - here
I must stop the subject is too trying.
I have let my pen run on, I fear not