

McGill University College
Oct/71
Toronto,

Sept. 30th /71

My dear Sir,

I am much obliged
to you for your friendly congrat-
ulations on my appointment here,
& also for the gift of your Textbook of
Zoology, & paper on *Lipillaria* &c.
The latter I had already read with
great interest in the *Geol. Journal*.

I have as yet merely been able to glance
over the other but I think the plan
of the work exceedingly good. As you
are aware, I am personally strongly
in favour of a more modern classifi-
cation, without being in any way
one of Huxley's & Haeckel's School.
For this reason I could not actually
use your Textbook in my class, as students

an apt to get horribly confused
on questions of classification, if any
opening is allowed them. One of my
own Text-books, also, is now going through
the press in a somewhat Americanised
form, & will be published by the Ap-
pletons of New York in some four or
five weeks.

As I said before, however, the plan of
your Text-book appears to me to be
exceedingly good, & there is ample
room for such a Manual of Zoology,
having special reference to Canadian
Zoology, & specially adapted for
Canadian students. It would,
therefore, afford me much pleasure
to co-operate with you in the pro-
duction of such a work in any man-
ner that may seem desirable to you.

As regards the "Canadian Natur-
alist," I need hardly say that I
shall be very happy to contribute

an occasional paper, & you shall
have one before very long.

I hope to be able to make a hurried
visit to Montreal some time about
the middle of October, as I have
to go to Quebec to meet my child-
ren, who are coming from England.
In this case I shall do myself the
pleasure of calling upon you; & shall
be very glad to see your Museum,
of which I have often heard.

The Appletons are just bringing out
for me a Text book of Geology, which
I trust will be published in some
two or three weeks from now, when
I shall have the pleasure of
sending you a copy.

If time will permit, I shall also
try & see Mr. Billings when I am in
Montreal, as I have long wished to
make his acquaintance. I am

now bringing out the first fasci-
cicles of my Monograph of the
Gneiss, & he could afford me
much assistance.

Hoping to meet you before long.

I remain

your very truly

H. Alleyne Nicholas

J. W. Dawson Esq. L.L.D. &c

