

Carpenter



May 7<sup>th</sup> University of London,

Burlington Gardens, W.

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Dear Dr. Dawson

It is really too bad of Carters to go on as he is doing; and in the next "Annals" he will receive the "punishment" he deserves. I dispose of the objection which he considers fatal to Rozoon, by showing that he has simply found a "mare's nest";

precisely the same  
arrangement being exhibited  
in the Nummulates above  
which he considers himself  
omniscient. And his mon-  
strous claim to priority, which  
I shall not myself condes-  
cend to notice, will be com-  
pletely put down by other  
independent authorities.

The fact is that he is eaten  
up by egotism; and feels  
highly flattered at the value  
attached by King & Housley  
to his authority.

But, what is more in



portant, I shall have a  
crusher for the whole lot,  
in a "fac-simile" plate of a  
transparent section  
half of Lozoon, in which I have  
been fortunate enough (on  
the careful re-examination  
which I have been thus led  
to make of the minute struc-  
ture of the specimens long  
in my possession) to <sup>find</sup> ~~get~~  
a portion of the resinous  
lime layer uninfiltrated,  
with the tubuli as distinct  
as in any specimen of den-  
tine, recent or fossil, that  
I ever saw; and <sup>also to</sup> ~~of the~~  
find the precise origin of

the canal-system on the  
outer side of the mesen-  
tine layer, as I long ago  
described it, on the strength  
of my decalcified specimens,  
precisely as in Calcarina.  
Also, a "fac-simile" of a <sup>transverse</sup> section  
showing ~~that~~ a group  
of ramifications of the can-  
al-system uninfiltated  
save by calcite; the serpen-  
tine having only passed  
into the main trunk, and  
<sup>then</sup> stopping short. - I wrote  
ten days ago to Rowney  
and Carter, asking them  
if they had seen this last



I cannot do so  
single handed;  
because

I cannot  
meet them on  
the mineral  
soil ground.

Believe me  
yours faithfully  
William Carpenter

University London,  
Burlington Gardens, W.

condition (which I knew to be shown, by proper arrangement of the light) in the very slide ~~has~~ submitted to Carter), and <sup>requesting to know</sup> how they accounted for it. Carter merely replies that nothing will convince him that the canal system is anything but an infiltration, an answer eminently worthy of a candid scientific man! Rowney acknow-

ledged my letter (in  
which I had also ci-  
villy asked whether he and  
his colleague still main-  
tained the internal cast I  
had sent him ~~for~~ of a Poly-  
stonella from the Aegean  
to be used), and said he wd  
consult Prof K, and reply  
to me - I have not <sup>yet</sup> got his  
answer.

I feel perfectly sure that  
my Paper must satisfy  
every one who has not  
made up his mind - like  
our opponents - to exclude  
all evidence of organic  
structure. Of what I now



figure and describe be not  
organic, I may as well aban-  
don microscopy altogether,  
and make Prof King (who  
had never looked through a  
microscope of his own when  
he first ~~to~~ denied the organic  
nature of lozoon, and who,  
not many years ago, iden-  
tified the Orbulina universa  
which he <sup>then</sup> saw for the first time  
with the grains of oolite) a  
present of my Microscope!

I asked Huxley to look at  
a slide of the canal-system;  
and he asked if it was seri-  
ously maintained that the  
infiltrating material does  
not pass into pre-existing  
tubes!

Now as to your proposition,

I would ask you to consider  
an alternative which I had  
previously "ventilated" here;—  
viz. that I should propose, with  
promise of co-operation from  
Sir M<sup>r</sup> Logan, Dr Terry Hunt, and  
yourself, to prepare a complete  
monograph of Rozoon, to be  
published, with all the requi-  
site pieces justificatives, by  
the Paleontographical Society;  
and that before deciding to  
accept or reject that proposi-  
tion, the Council should ap-  
point a <sup>small</sup> Committee of "experts",  
who should carefully exam-  
ine the evidence I am pre-  
pared to submit to them, <sup>as</sup> ~~and~~  
~~hear~~ <sup>well as</sup> also whatever may be  
placed before them by the other  
side. I am perfectly confident



will involve my putting aside  
for a time other work which  
I much desire to proceed  
with; but I should not <sup>choose to</sup> under-  
take it without your co-opera-  
tion. On the other hand, if you  
<sup>still</sup> prefer the Canadian publica-  
tion which you propose, I will  
give you all the help I can.

Do not reply to this, until  
you have seen the next No's  
Annals; but then write to  
me without delay. Please  
say to Sir Wm Logan that I  
hope he will give us the plea-  
sure of seeing him when he  
next comes over. I could not  
learn where he was in his  
last visit, and missed seeing  
him - Will he come to Belfast?  
If he will, I will challenge King  
& Rowney to meet me there, and fight  
them with his assistance -

of the decision of such men  
as Busk, Rusley, Bowman,  
Duncan, Parker, Sorby, <sup>Thomson</sup>  
Forbes, - to say nothing of Wil-  
kiamson, <sup>Rupert Jones,</sup> Brady, - if they  
could be induced to devote  
a few hours to the ~~enquiry~~ <sup>at the result of</sup>  
enquiry. And if, ~~after~~ <sup>as the result of</sup> such  
a trial, the Palaeont. Society  
~~was~~ publishes the Monograph,  
it would establish the thing  
finally, not only in the  
minds of British, but also  
of Continental Palaeontolo-  
gists, in a way that no  
Canadian publication <sup>would</sup>  
do. - I am quite willing  
to take the labouring oar in  
the matter, even though it