



Whiteaves
GEOLOGICAL & NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY.

Alfred R. C. Selwyn *Albert Campbellton*
D. D. *Inspector*
MUSEUM & OFFICE, SUSSEX ST OTTAWA.

August 6th, 1881.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your favour of the 4th instant, just handed to me by D. Selwyn, I beg to state that some few weeks since Mr. Ford sent me a large box of fossils from Campbellton, whose contents I have been studying ever since with a view to publishing a preliminary description of the species.

Most of our books, however, are still unpacked, & I have not access at present to any papers or monographs on the Cephalas-
puidae.

Among Mr. Ford's specimens there are a considerable number both of the "Cypridina" & of the small gastropod.

ill defined & more types than one may be included under that name.

Meek & Worthen have described a carboniferous genus of gastropods to which they gave the name Microdroma, but the paper in which this type was defined is not accessible to me now, but may be in a few days, as our books are now being unpacked, though at rather a slow rate.

I should very much like to see the specimens you have from Campbellton. I would gladly come down to Montreal for that purpose on any ~~day~~ Saturday that would suit your convenience.

We can get Saturday return tickets from here to Montreal, available for the earliest train on Saturday & the latest on Monday, at a single fare.

Some time since it seemed to me the best course to describe the Campbellton gastropod as minutely & carefully as the specimens would

permit, & to call it provisionally Lawsonella (?) Acadica. Do you think it would be desirable to do so?

Faithfully yours,

J. F. Whiteaves.

Principal Dawson L. L. D., F. R. S., C. M. G.

At present I have not any opportunity of consulting Milne Edwards' definition of his genus Cypridina, but the Campbellton entomostracan bears a remarkably close resemblance to Beprichia Logani, even to the size & shape of its marginal furrow.

In reference to the small gastropod, which I have not studied very critically as yet, I am not quite satisfied as to the characters of its umbilicus & aperture. In many respects, no doubt, it resembles Sawsonella, but the occurrence with it of Spiorobis & Cypridina are scarcely in favour of its being a land or fresh water shell. To me the aperture seems scarcely circular, but more flattened on the inner or columellar side than on the outer, & the lip seems to be simple in my specimens. Compared with recent shells it looks not unlike a Valvata, in its ventricose whorls & deep sutures, but it is also equally like certain smooth Margarites, such as M. argentata, Gould & M. helicina. Sections might shew if it possessed the columellar thickening or protuberance of Sawsonella. Among fossil genera, there is very little to distinguish it from Holopea, Hall, but that genus is very