

University  
Aberdeen

July 24<sup>th</sup> 88

Dear Sir William Dawson,

I have managed to  
examine the specimens of Pollis-  
ponta which you were good enough  
to send me. I see no reason to doubt  
their complete identity in structure  
& nature with the Russian specimens  
of Pollis-ponta, Pander - though  
they <sup>are probably</sup> ~~may be~~ specifically different  
from these. Nor can I able to  
doubt that they are Echinodermal  
in their nature - though I am not  
able to say definitely what precise

group of Echinoderms they should be  
referred to, or what actual part of  
an Echinodermal skeleton they represent.  
I have made a slide of one of your  
specimens which I find peculiarly sim-  
ilar to the Russian specimens in structure,  
though decidedly more preserved.  
If I had seen no other slide than this  
I should certainly not have ventured  
to give a positive opinion as to its  
Echinodermal character, though I  
should have strongly suspected it.  
I have however, one Russian slide  
in which the minute structure of the  
Echinodermal test is quite recognisably  
preserved, while others are in the  
condition presented by your specimens.

Moreover, I have plenty of sections  
(slides) of undoubted Cuvierid stems  
& of the plates of Palaeozoic La-landia  
in which the characteristic <sup>minute</sup> structure  
is quite as obscure as in your examples  
of Bollespongia, & indeed in which the  
appearances are quite similar in  
all respects to what is shown in slides  
of your specimens.

I have packed up your specimens &  
slides, <sup>& your M.S.</sup> & shall send them to-day  
by parcel post to Burlington House  
in case you want them. I have  
also put into the parcel the spec-  
imens of Hydra which Mr. Cuvier  
has been so good as to send me.  
I have not, unfortunately, time at

present to make any attempt to  
examine them with a view to their  
determination. All the same, I  
shall be obliged if you will express  
to Mr. Cuming my gratitude for  
his kindness in sending me the  
specimens to look at.

I am going to the Lake district  
the day after tomorrow. I shall be  
glad to know that you have re-  
ceived the parcel safely, & a  
letter addressed to me to  
"Mr. Fellende, Penrith, Cumberland"  
will find me any time during the  
next three weeks.

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,

H. Allyn Richardson

P. S. One set of specimens sent  
seem to be small examples of  
Solenopora compacta, Mill., though  
I should have to make a slide in  
order to be quite sure of this.  
I have put a label in the box  
with the specimens in question.

H. A. N.

And then says that he has  
Spies of some kind at the  
No reward if they find  
left it. I also says probably  
more real. Found out about  
with

Gen. credited to Paul  
1830