

Fluide
Aونداله روك لوندون Me/89
April 10. 1889

Dear Sir J. W. Dawson,

I have duly received your letters of the 15th and 28th March and in accordance with your wish have again examined the specimens which you have referred to.

I am returning to you by parcel post to-day the best of the two specimens of Cyathospongia (the other specimen scarcely shows any of the distinctive characters). The specimen is not entirely perfect at the base, where it appears to be passing into a tuft of long anchoring spicules, very much in the same way as in the recent Holasma

fibulatus, Schulz. Chall. Report pl. XV, fig. 9.
Then are also in the specimen, at the
lower part, traces of projecting spicular
rays of the same character but less
prominent than in the forms which
you named Cylindrospongia.

As regards another name in place
of the already occupied Cylindrospongia
I think one which suggests the prickly
surface characters of these forms would
be appropriate and propose the follow-
ing from which you might select
the most suitable 'Acanthaceros',
'Acanthodictya', 'Acanthosestron',
'Thyricospongia'. There are no sponges
bearing these names but it would be
desirable to see in Sander's list
if they have been otherwise employed.

It seems to me probable that
Nos. 9 & 10 (Lasiocladia?) are generically
distinct. No. 10 is certainly a hexacti-

nellid sponge; and No. 9 may also be-
long to the same group, though I cannot
satisfactorily make out cruciform
spicules in addition to the long curved
rod-like spicules extending longi-
tudinally over the surface. The presence
of anchoring spicules also favours the
idea of its being hexactinellid. In place
of Lasiocladia, Lasiotrix or Lasio-
derma might be employed for No. 9.

I cannot make out No. 10. It seems to
be distinct, for there are several specimens
fairly alike, and yet all them seem
to be a broad flattened ring, with a surface
mesh of minute spicules and beneath this
is an open framework of cruciform
spicules.

If you are satisfied that the mesh
work of Protospongia cyathiformis is
finer than that of P. tetraenum, then
the character would be of specific

value. One very striking feature
in P. cyathiformis is the oblique ar-
rangement of the skeletal mesh
in relation to the long axis of the sponge.

Would it be agreeable to you
before returning the specimens that
I should exhibit them in your
name at one of the evening meet-
ings of the Geological Society?
It would be the means of drawing
the attention of some of our geolo-
gists to them and there are certainly
no specimens so well preserved
from any Buxton rocks.

Believe me

Yours very truly
Georg J. Hinde