

H. A. MORRELL,
LUMBER MANUFACTURER.

Pittsfield, Me., July 3rd 1876,

Prof. J. W. Dawson,
Montreal; -

Dear Sir;

The fossil arrived
all right. Many thanks,

Enclosed I send a bit of coal
which I should be glad to have you examine &
see if you can find any woody structure in it.

The history of it is as follows: A labourer
came to me a few days ago and wanted to show
me something he had dug out of the earth,
said that when it was dug up a year ago it was
soft as mud "ropy" and worked like putty, that
it come up in layers and appeared as tho there
was a large quantity of it. On seeing it the
specimen I pronounced it Bituminous Coal.

I know of no portion of Maine where the
Carboniferous formation shows itself, and especially
at this town where this is found, the prevailing ledges

an of a bent and contorted state.

The coal on being subjected to fire crackles and flies in pieces but burns with a good deal of flame, and very readily.

It being so soft and oily as he describes it where it lays, and the fact that it does not occur in a proper coal formation gives me the idea that it may resemble the Albert mine at Hillsborough New Brunswick. I am in hope that he will be ~~able~~ able to show me the deposit and it may be possible that it may prove valuable. If you will give me your views as to whether it is true coal or not you will greatly oblige

Yours very truly
H. A. Wood

Shovel
J. H. Wood