



Hill

Amherst, Dec 17. 1878

My dear Sir,

Your favor of 7th was duly received and I at once sent forward an inquiry to Mr Boyce at the College with reference to the fossil material to which I have today received the enclosed reply. I do not know what to think of its new-ness and as soon as I possibly can will see Mr Farley about it and if necessary will have a search at Mr Boyce's store myself for it. It appears certain that it was taken from the stone but perhaps a blunder was made

in boxing.

I was conversing a few days
since with a Capt. Weeks - a very
intelligent man who has had a
good deal to do with the P. E. S.
Submarine Cable and has under-
own considerable portions of it
at various times for the purpose
of repairs. He says that parts
of it, in some instances a quar-
ter of a mile in length are com-
pletely coated with Copper the
exterior surface being brown
and bright and showing no scale
appearance. I am not sufficiently
acquainted with such things to
know whether there is really any
thing uncommon in it but of so

may it not throw some light
on the occurrence of Copper in such
deposits under deep water con-
ditions? Speaking of Copper re-
minds me that an immense de-
posit of Black Copper ore is re-
ported in the Caymans but we
without, that I cannot vouch
for.

A large lead of argentiferous
Galena is also being opened
near St. George N.B. yielding
3.1 lbs Troy of silver per ton of
lead. The claim is in the hands
of Mr J. H. Harding of St. John
who is organizing a Company
to operate it upon an extensive

dear

It appears that in the present
unexampled depression of the
Coal trade many enterprises
must find a field for its
operation in our own
country or die out altogether
Our Eastern Mines are even
at this early season in a sad
flight and nothing but Govern-
ment aid on a large scale
can avert widespread desas-
ter and suffering before Spring

I am dear Sir
Very faithfully yours

Albert J. Hill

W. W. Benson