

Peabody Museum,
New Haven Conn.

Feb'y 27th, 1879.

Dr. Dawson.

Dear Sir,

I have sent you
by this mail a small frag-
ment of limestone with shales
of serpentine, from the meta-
morphic region north of
Rio de Janeiro, referred by
Prof. Hartt to the Laurentian
I have just received it from
Mr. O. A. Derby, who is inclined
to call it an evidence of Lozoon,
and we would very much like
to obtain your opinion on the
matter. if we might trouble you
to that extent. Serpentine has
long been known from that

metamorphic rocks of Brazil to those of North
America. I am afraid, however, the details
may in which the serpentine is disseminated
will preclude its being referred to Eozoon.

The Brazilian serpent leaves on the 4th
5th and if possible I should like to visit
Mandaly to the value of his discovery. I care it
is of interest would you be willing to give me
a more description of the specimens to be inserted
in connection with an account ^{by Mr. Dury} of the rocks in
which it was found? I can read you Mr. Dury's
account if you wish to see it

Very truly
Richard Rathbone

region, but until very recently
it has not been found in
such a shape as to recall
Leozoon, that is if the spec-
imen I send you can be re-
ferred to that perplexing form.
I send you all that I have
received excepting a small
fragment broken from this
same specimen. The serpentine
is arranged in spots and not
in layers, but under the micro-
scope it presents minute char-
acters, resembling very much some
of those, which you have illustrated.
All of the specimens found by
Murdock, were exactly like
this one, in the arrangement
of the serpentine. If this proves
to be the fossil I hope it may
be, it will add another character,
to be used in comparing the older

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Rathbone
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