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ACC. NO. 2211/68
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Little Meets

P2

July 17/79

My dear Dr Carpenter,

Yours of June 30

reached me at this sea-side
place, whither I have retreated
for a little quiet work in
the vacation.

As to the Murchisonian
layer of Eborac, I think you
should not too hastily
decide. I can fully believe
that some of the specimens
you have trusted to are
merely chrysolite; but there
are others essentially distinct,
and which belong to the
boundary between the
Calcareous Laminæ and

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The serpentine. You will
see a good illustration of
this in, I think, the last
plate of my "Journ of
Life". It is true that
this layer is only acc-
identally visible, and
in the nature of the
case it can rarely
have been preserved,
but when it is present
it constitutes a very
distinct structure, which
I think I could very
easily demonstrate as
distinct from anything
crystalline. Indeed a

a first specimen it is resolved
into distinct cylindrical
threads by an No 8 Water
lens. It can be well seen
only in exceedingly thin slices,
and is usually but poorly
exposed when decalcified; though
in this state it does sometimes
appear as a distinct fibrous
crust on the serpentine. When
Hahn was here he brought
with him a german slice,
very well cut, in which both
Chrysolite veins & Jasper well
were present. I shewed him
at once under the microscope
the difference of the two
which he could not deny.
He has by the way recently
written to me that he has come
to think that Soron is a
marine plant!!

Capt. Carpenter
July 29

When I return I shall
endeavour to send you
one of my very thin slices,
showing both Vermorel
wall and chrysothite.

Baird writes to me
that the Smithsonian Fund
is pledged for three years
in advance, for memoirs
already accepted, but says
that if it will do after
that time, he will be glad
to confer farther on the
subject. If you think that
time too long, we can fall
back upon the Survey. I
think however I shall ask
Baird to consider the matter
and not to let any other
application interfere till
you can decide.