



St. Andrews ^{McGill}
Scotland

Nov. 18th / 79

My dear Principal Dawson,

Many thanks for
your kind letter. I am glad you
like the "Tabulate" Corals. I do not
claim for it anything more than
that it lays a general foundation
upon which, I hope, it will be found
possible to build. It is, in fact, rather
less more than a mere breaking
of ground.

As for the two corals to which you refer
(pp. 287, 288 of the "Acadian Geology") I
should be disposed to think that both
will turn out to belong to Montic-
ulipora; but I could not venture to

for a post elsewhere; & if it comes to that, I should
not wonder if I should again look to America for
a home. I was very fond of Canada, & in the present
state of the University, I sometimes regret that I
ever left it. However, this is all in the clouds in
the meanwhile.

Should you be writing, again, I should be glad if you
would tell me something about Dr. Haysman of
Walden. Who & what is he? He sends me the
most interesting papers, for which I have not
thanked him; & from which I have been able to get the little
excerpt that he is eager for a pray, & certain, in his own
opinion, of its being with Paul's reports.

Yours most truly
W. Alleyn Nicholas

pronounce a positive opinion without
seeing actual specimens. Your S. exilis
may be a true Stenopora, but I should not
wonder if it should be really our M.
tumida, Phell., which also has or may
have spines round the calices. I should
~~say~~^{add} however, that M. tumida has
many of the characters of Stenopora
Imper.; & if it turns out to have "mural
pores", it will have to go into the genus
Stenopora. I shall be very glad to
see specimens, if you will kindly
send me one or two.

I am very glad to hear that you do
not intend to give up Exosia. I per-
sonally still believe in it, & have just
been examining some very beautiful
specimens from Petite Pointe, which
Mr. Tricle has brought me.

There is not much new going on here,

& our own University affairs are
in a bad way. The revenues of St. An-
drews, as you may know, are almost
wholly denied from land; & the
agricultural depression for some time
has been so great, & has so steadily
increased, that our finances have
got into a terrible state. Whether
or not the University can weather the
storm is an open question; but there
is no money to get out of our belli-
cose Government, & it seems certain
that Professor, like myself, without pri-
vate means, will not be able to endure
the pinch much longer. I shall wait
a year ~~or so~~ or so, to see if there is any
prospect of an improvement in our
funds; but if things continue as
they are, I shall be forced to seek