



Whitman

GEOLOGICAL & NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY.

Alfred R. C. Selwyn B.L.S., F.R.S., Director.

MUSEUM & OFFICE, SUSSEX ST. OTTAWA.

Nov. 25th 1881.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your letter of the 21st instant, favoured by Dr. G. M. Dawson, for the information contained in it. In accordance with a promise made to Mr. Frank Hicks, I have yesterday mailed to you the paper on Campbellton fossils. Please make any use ^{of it} that you may think fit for Monday's meeting, & afterwards please give it to Mr. Donald for the "Naturalist," & ask him to send me proofs as soon as they are ready.

The woodcut required we are getting made & will send it down in a few days. Since I last saw you I have altered my notions in regard to these fossils in two respects. First, from an examination of well preserved fragments of the true outer surface of the Campbellton Cephalaspis, it now appears that the sculpture

is minutely & very irregularly pitted, not tubercu-
lated, & this seems to me a very good
specific character. Secondly, the fin spines
which at one time I thought might belong
to the genus Climacium, seem to me almost
certainly to be referable to Etenacanthus.
For the present no opinion is ^{in this paper} offered, as to
the specific relations of the Spirorbis &
the entomostraca, ~~as well as~~ ^{nor on any of those of} one or two
fish spines & some teeth, which are left
for further study.

At the last meeting of the N. H. Society
there was an omission which I was very
sorry to see, or rather to read of. No
notice of any kind was taken of the loss
which the Society has recently sustained
by the recent decease of Lieut. Col.
G. E. Bulger (F. L. S., F. R. G. S., F. Z. S.)
No resolutions of condolence with his

relations in Montreal were passed.

(As one of the largest contributors to its Museum that the Society has ever had, as a writer for the "Canadian Naturalist,"— Was one of those who ever took a warm interest in the Society's welfare) it seems to me that some little mark of respect should have been shewn to his memory. Possibly it would not be too late to remedy, what no doubt was an unintentional oversight, at the meeting on Monday.

I am sorry that I have not been able to throw my notes on the Campbellton fossils into a more popular shape & one more suitable for such an occasion, but have been very busy lately with the arrangement of the paleontological part of the museum & with other work. My promise to Mr Hicks was merely that I

would send him the paper as it was intended to go into the "Naturalist" & that he might do what he liked with it so far as this particular meeting was concerned. On ~~Thurs-~~ ~~at~~ Wednesday Mr. Hicks telegraphed to me to ask if I would have the paper ready, my reply was that it would be sent to you by Friday (to day) or Saturday at the latest. If you could kindly let Mr. Hicks know when you receive the paper I should be much obliged.

If the paper is read, to make the descriptions of Coccyzus intelligible, it would be necessary (or at any rate desirable) to have an enlarged copy of the drawing sent down, made on the black board.

Faithfully yours,

J. F. Whiteaves.