

Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania.

J. PETER LESLEY, State Geologist.
1008 CLINTON STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

April 26

1882

New Bloomfield
Perry Co Pa

My dear Dr Dawson

May I trouble you, though I know how busy you must be just now at your new Museum, to favour me with your opinion on the fossil represented by the accompanying gutta serena squeeze? It is from our Devonian beds in this County as nearly as I can at present determine its horizon it must be near that would be called in N.Y. the Chemung. It comes near to L. Chemungense so far as I can see but I have no specimens of that species & all the figures within my reach are ^{1st} the almost worthless woodcut in Vol II p. 829 of the 1st Survey of Pa - ^{2nd} your lithograph 1871 Foss. Plant of Pa. which for minute detail shows little - ^{3rd} Dana's reproduction of Worn 1874 so conventionalized as to suit half the Lepidodendron known.

It is a small stem about 6 inches long & of the breadth shown in the squeeze. The stem is complete, of course, flattened, but shows the bark along some part of its extent. The squeeze represents the outside of the bark as it is taken from a cast of that in the shale. The bed,

containing it are a few thin layers in a mass of strata
some 2 miles thick of Devonian age almost unpossibility
evident. Evidence however of land surfaces near are
afforded by ripple-marked slabs in at least one place.

The wax squeeze does not show the minute structure
of the leaf scars so I have added a magnified view

Claypole
Apr 1872



of one of them made by a comparison of
several under the lens. They are fairly
distinct some of them very clear. So

far as I can judge the scars are longer in
proportion than those of L. Chemungensis but as
they vary much in different parts of the same plant
I hesitate to draw any inferences from that fact at
present.

Though I have placed it in the Chemung I have
no evidence for that opinion. It may be as low as the
Hamilton. In the scarcity of fossils in that loca-
lity I cannot yet separate these formations.

Trusting that you will be able to spare a
few minutes for the examination of the squeeze

Remain with kindest regards

Yours very truly

E. W. Claypole