

Edward Potts
Phila May 18. 1882
W. S. Sarge
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Mr. Geo. M. Dawson

Dear Sir

I have accepted a commission from Prof. S. P. Baird, to prepare a collection of Am. Fresh Water Sponges & exhibition primarily at the International Fishery Exposition in London in 1883, afterwards to form part of the Nat. Museum in Washington D.C.

I have written him that I thought I could furnish type specimens (micro-slides) of nearly all the described species; and fragments in mass of the majority of them. In this offer I have counted largely on your favor and that of Mr. Mills if you incline to furnish over your own names samples of those respectively described by each. If not I will do as well as I can from the material you have already kindly furnished me.

My present idea is to prepare slides of each species in triplicate. 1 Statoblast, + Skelepic. transparent. - 2 Same dry opaque -

3 All classes of spicules separated by the use
of Labanague's Solution and mounted flat.

If you could conveniently provide me with
these or write provide material for their man-
ufacture, I shall esteem it a great favor.

Mass Specimens I shall put up dry in corked
bottles, so, as far as possible to prevent handling
and consequent crumbling.

I have given most of my spare time to this
study since our last correspondence and
have quite a large collection of material
of my own, including several new species.

I know of no other workers in this field than
you and Mr. Mills who have described species,
excepting Dr. Leidy in the case of *S. fragilis* (of which
I have found his type) and a species mentioned
by H. James Clark. Of course I also know what
Dr. Bowbank has done.

Any assistance you may be able to give me
during the coming summer will be highly ap-
preciated by

Yours very resp
Edward Tott
228 S. 3rd St
Phila.