

COE COLLEGE.

FREDERICK STARR,

PROFESSOR OF THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES.

Starr

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Jan. 23<sup>d</sup> 1885.

J. W. Dawson, L.L.D.

Montreal, Canada.

Dear Sir,

I presume that long before now you have entirely forgotten the Lafayette College student, at Auburn, N.J., who had the pleasure of meeting you on the occasion of your lecturing at that place a few years ago. He also had the audacity to ask you for some of your books in exchange for some Hamilton fossils that he sent you later. Your response was far kinder and more generous than it ought to have been. Nevertheless he is on hand again! On the occasion referred to you sent me a copy of Billings' "Palaeozoic Fossils". It was taken with some other geological writings from my home during my absence a year ago. I have replaced the other books by new purchases but that one I have not. Can it be obtained at present?

I am in a region where a great abundance of fossil corals are found of Devonian age and of species & genera quite different from our New York and Canada specimens. Most common & marked are

Species of *Aceroularia*. These are very abundant  
& with other species are quarried at some places  
in this vicinity & polished as ornamental stones -  
paper weights, mantels, tiles, &c. If specimens "in  
the rough" will be of any value to you or to the  
Museum of the College I'd be very happy to send  
you a box of them as soon as the open weather  
comes on. If you want to purchase polished specs,  
I'd be very happy to select good ones for you, when,  
in Springtime, I visit the quarries, where polishing  
is done. Besides *Aceroularia* I should  
be able to send you *Stromatopora*, *Favosites* and  
*Phillipia*. I feel as tho there was  
more or less indebtedness on my side of our acct.  
but there is no need of your accepting these unless  
they will be of interest to you.

This is my third year of scientific teaching  
tho I have moved twice. One year at Ills, one at  
Lock Haven, Pa (State Normal) & now here. I can't help  
but think of the old proverb & yet, each move, has  
been to a better position.

At the Smithsonian Inst<sup>n</sup> some time ago  
I saw a photograph of Dr. Dawson that greatly  
pleased me. Would it be asking much to ask  
for me?

Yrs. very respectfully,

J. Starr.