



UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, Va

Dec. 19th 1885

Sir William Dawson,

Dear Sir,

I am much obliged to you for the proof sheets of your article, they give me a good idea of the flora, and make it quite apparent that your Kootanie plants, ^{in the main,} differ from those of the oldest Cretaceous of this state. Still, without the figures, I am not prepared to say that some are not common to the two floras. The plants on which I am now working represent the whole of the Keeweenaw and may contain some connecting links with the flora of the middle Cretaceous, as I have a few species of ferns in it, the dominant types are Wealden, with some similar to those of the Permian, and ^{those of} Schenk's Wernsdorff beds. I find among them several species of a plant, which if one had only the isolated leaf branches, would be considered as Podocarpites, some of the leaflets

are close to Podocarpites lanceolatus. But from the man-
ner of branching of the leaf branches, they clearly
are a broad leaf conifer, I mention this as it is
possible that some of your Podocarpites may be
similar to these.

Yours truly

Wm. J. Fontaine

Fontaine
Dec 1866