



GEOLOGICAL & NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY.

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

MUSEUM & OFFICE, SUSSEX ST OTTAWA.

March 2nd, 1886.

To Sir William Dawson L. L. D., F. R. S.

Dear Sir,

The box containing the St. Lawrence shells & star fishes has come duly to hand & I am much obliged to you for these specimens. The only one that was at all injured in transitu was one of the large specimens of Asterias polaris. Verrill, by the way, says that the slender five rayed starfish that I used to think was A. Groenlandicus is A. littoralis, Stimpson.

The St. Lawrence Shells that we happen to want most are unfortunately the rarest species. Thus, in Buccinum we had B. tenue & plettrum fairly represented, but not B. glaciale, ciliatum or cyaneum. Again, the Trophon we wanted most, for more reasons than one, is T. craticulatus, which seems to be quite rare in good condition. Fryer says that Trophon Orpheus, Gould, of the West Coast, is synonymous with T. craticulatus, but to me they seem sufficiently distinct, as species go.

Of Buccinum plettrum I have never seen a fully adult specimen in good condition, shewing what the characters of the



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aperture were like, as compared with other nearly related forms. What was wanted in Lacuna vineta was a series showing the colours of the epidermis of the fresh adult shell, especially for comparison with the L. solidula, Loven, of Vancouver. We have a few tolerable, but only tolerable, examples of L. vineta collected recently by Macoun on the shores of Anticosti. We have also a fair set of all the species dredged by me in & around Gaspé Bay in 1867 & 1869.

In a little while I hope to be able to pick out for you as good a series of West Coast echinodermata & shells as we can spare. I am trying to prepare a paper on Dr. G. M. Dawson's ~~for~~ last years dredgings, or rather on the species obtained in them, for the next meeting of the Royal Society. As soon as the species are determined shall hope to send you a set. Among the things that you kindly sent us last week are a few duplicates of things that we already have, if you like I can return these when sending the West Coast invertebrates.

Very truly yours,

J. F. Whiteaves.

STATIONER & PRINTER

1000 W. BROADWAY, ST. LOUIS, MO.



Whitman
Sept 1885