

5 Berkeley Place

Cheltenham #
July 30.

Dear Sir William Dawson.

I returned home yesterday
after five weeks absence at
the sea side and on my table
I found your paper "On
Rhizocarps in the Cretaceous Period
in America" for which please
accept my best thanks.

Before I refer to your paper
let me say that I think I

owe you an apology for not
replying to a previous letter
of yours, in which you
called my attention to a
paper of yours in one of the
earlier numbers of the Quart.
Journ. Geol. Soc. I saw
that paper some years ago.
The reason that I did not
again look it up was, that
I thought you gave the
substance of all your investigations
in "Acadian Geology", and I
took what you there said
as the result of your most

recent investigations. If, however,
I have done you any injustice
I am really very sorry, and
in my next production I will
put myself right in the
matter. I ought to have written
this before; my excuse is that
up to within the last seven
weeks I have for months
been in a constant state
of anxiety which has rendered
me fit for nothing. During
that time my wife was
hanging between life and
death. A little over two
months ago she underwent

an operation which, I am
thankful to say, has proved
perfectly successful. I am
now about to commence work
again.

Returning to your paper, I
have read it with much
interest, and am delighted
that you take the view you
do as to spores; that is that
they are from plants of
aquatic habit. I do not
think, however, that those
found by Newton in Tasmanite
and in the "Better Bed" are
the same species; in the later

(2)
coal the spores show the tri-
radiate ridge or marking, there
are, too, both macrospores and
microspores in the "Better Bed".

I think you are right in
assuming that Neutor's Taomantia
perretata should come under
the head of Protosalvinia.
There is, however, this to be
considered, namely, that the
shale "Taomantia" is supposed
to be of Tertiary age. For
my part I doubt this, and
have told Neutor so.

I fear I shall not be at the

Ethered

July
July/86

British Association this year.
I may, perhaps, run up to
Birmingham to hear your
opening address but I shall
have to leave early next
morning for Dorsetshire. I
therefore fear I may not be
able to see you while in
England, unless you happen
to be passing this way, when
I need not say how pleased
we should be to see you.
With kindest regards to
Lady Dawson and yourself
Yours very truly
E. Wethered