

Seafield

Totland Bay
Isle of Wight

December 29, 1886

Dear Sir William,

Your letter of
9th reached me just before our
leaving the Manor House on the 29th
for a visit to Mrs. Nielson who has taken
a house here for the winter. I am sorry
to say that my wife took cold on the long
pier at which we landed near here and
has been confined to the house since our
arrival. She is so very susceptible of cold
that soon after our return home about
15th January we shall probably leave for
the South of Europe, Paris being our
likely first destination.

I

I accept on authority and without any
reserve your statement that the University
Museum contains collections of specimens
which are worthy of being described and
that is ~~desirable~~ they should be described
in a permanent form. I have not heard
many allusions to the Museum but such as
I have heard have been complimentary.

The expense of such a publication as you
contemplate would be a proper charge on
the Museum funds but as that is not yet
able to bear the charges that are absolutely
necessary for the maintenance of the building
you have to look outside for the means.

I apprehend that the larger portion of the
issue would be given away and that the
proceeds of sales would be trifling.

I doubt not that such a publication would
be useful in various ways but I do not
like the idea of your bearing any portion
of

of the expense - I shall be quite willing
to help - Can you tell me the probable size
of the first volume, the number you would
have printed and the total cost? You
should begin with a style volume which
would be exactly copied in subsequent issues.

I do not feel rich just now and I don't
see much prospect of having much to
spare for some time to come but I dare say
I shall be able as I certainly am willing
to assist in this matter -

We have received here Lady Sawson
and Eva's kind Christmas remembrances
which with those conveyed in your
letter are very acceptable and very pleasant
and are fully reciprocated.

I am
Yours ever truly

Peter Redpath

Wm Dawson

Montreal.

R Redpath
July 187