

Decks

June 1899

Calgary June 1<sup>st</sup> 99

Dear Sir William,

Your very kind and  
considerate letter just to hand,  
I am indeed under great obligations  
to you for the trouble you have  
gone to in order to secure me  
an advantageous position. I  
will write Dr Cook about the  
position but I would much  
prefer to remain in Montreal  
and study under yourself for  
another year besides the advan-  
tages offered in connection with  
Physiology. As far as I can  
see at present my future course  
of study will be Science and

if so it would be much  
to my advantage to remain  
in Montreal. I have been  
looking round here somewhat  
and find that I can get a  
splendid collection of typical  
rocks from the Rockies in the  
pebbles of the Low River. They  
are mostly quartzites slimestones  
& occasionally a fine conglomerate.  
The quartzites are very varied  
in color & some show the bedding  
very distinctly. I have also  
examined the material from a  
shaft at Cochrane. The rock  
is mostly a drab sandstone  
fine grained & varying in hardness  
some can be crumpled with the  
hand & others but are quite hard.  
I see numerous examples of  
*Luceramus* & other lamellibranch.

ial shells but it is difficult  
to get them in tact as they seem  
to be greatly decomposed & only  
an impression made in the  
soft sandstone. . . . . Huge gravel deposits  
are also abundant & at Cochrane  
there are numerous large hills  
rising up North of the valleys  
which indicate on the sides the  
gradual subsiding of the waters  
as plainly as though it had  
been but yesterday. I have  
been to Kananaskis and scaled  
some of the peaks there just at  
the beginning of the fall. I brought  
no Barometer with me & could  
not say the height. I searched  
in vain for fossils. The folding  
seems to have taken place N with  
the ~~same~~ direction of the range North  
& South as the beds dip to the

west. In the bottom was a  
red sandstone without fossils  
This was succeeded by limestone  
with alternating quartz & gtes.  
& no fossils could be found.  
I will make a continued search  
again. At Glacier on the Laramie  
formation I saw a Boulder of  
red orthoquartzite which was  
taken from a well about 30 feet  
under ground. It was much  
water worn. I hope to be able in  
the autumn to give some extended  
particulars but I have not had  
much time yet. I shall be  
greatly obliged to you if there would  
be an arrangement made that  
I could get instruction from you  
for another session but we must  
take what is best. Thanking you  
sincerely for your kind consideration  
I remain Sincerely yours  
W. D. Beeks.