

Toronto, October 9th, 1889.

To Sir J. William Dawson,

Dear Sir, I suppose you are wondering that you have not heard from me sooner, but I decided to pay a visit to Manitoulin Island, and as delay would probably bring cold changeable weather I went as soon as I could conveniently do so. I got back to Toronto a week ago last Thursday, and secured a number of fine corals some of which I ~~had~~ have laid out to send to McGill College, and I think you will be much pleased with them when they arrive. I have not quite finished sorting out the Guelph Fossils yet but will hurry up and send the collection as quickly as possible. I still feel a little uncertain ~~but~~ about the transit of the "Maple Leaf," but the rest

will be pretty safe to send. I also collected a number of 'Hudson River' fossils at Manitowaning, and spent a day ~~examining~~ ~~examining~~ examining the Utica shale about Branglith, Collingwood Township, and succeeded in getting two pretty good trilobites (*Asaphus Canadensis*) and several ~~partially~~ others in a damaged state, and also a colony of small conularia in the Utica shale. Altogether I think I made quite a collection in the two weeks. I was absent from Toronto.

I went to the University last Monday week, and had quite a conversation with Professor Chapman, and showed him a few specimens of favosites, which he admired very much. He was a little surprised, when I told him

about some fossils that I have,
and he would like to get an
"Agelecrinites," (I cannot think of the
new name just while writing) as they
have none in the University. Indeed,
with the exception of a few trilobites,
which are very fine ones, my col-
lection of Canadian fossils are is
much superior to the collection
of Canadian fossils in the
University here.

I saw Mr. Whiteaves ~~he~~ on the
Monday following the day that ^{you} saw
some of my collection, and I let him
have my "Phacops rana," which I
knew was a fossil after his heart,
as it was so nearly perfect; and he also
got several choice Guelph fossils,
a number of fine Bryozoans from
the Hamilton Formation at Thedford,
and Arkona, ^{and a few other fossils} for which I have received

\$25.00.

Before I went to Manitoulin, I called to see Mr. Walker, Manager of the Bank of Commerce, who has a handsome collection of fossils, having a very fine collection of trilobites, encrinites, etc., from the United States, and a very large and valuable library of geological works. Indeed he is very friendly, and will lend me any book I wish, and is an enthusiastic collector himself. I had a letter of introduction to him from Professor Spencer, a Canadian, who is now State Geologist for Georgia, and a Professor in the University at Athens, Ga. I had carried the letter in my pocket-book for a year before I presented it, as I felt a little shy about going with it, but he said he was going to look me up anyway, as he ^{had} heard about me, and was anxious to see my collection.

Mr. Walker spent a couple of hours with me, but he did not get very far over my collection, as he got very much interested in a drawer of Clinton fossils—corals, etc.,—mostly small in ~~the~~ size, but in which he takes a keen interest, and he was very much surprised at my collection from this formation, and admired them very much. Mr. Walker gave me \$25.00 before I went to Manitoulin, on condition that he got a share of what I collected, but when I saw his fine collection, and he ^{had} quite a number of nice Manitoulin fossils too, my heart almost failed me, that I could carry out satisfactorily my part of the contract; but I took him a collection over to his residence on St. George Street last night, and ~~with~~ he was very much pleased with them, and said I had not got enough for them, as I

had more than fulfilled my part.

And now I have to make a request of you, that I do not very well like to do myself, but on the advise of Mr. Walker I do so; Without troubling you with full particulars in this letter, a firm with whom I was dealing before I got into the "libel suit," and to whom I owed quite a bill, have waited very patiently until the present time, but were beginning to push matters for their claim. I have arranged with them to settle it, on condition that I pay \$75. within ten days from last Monday, and renew notes for balance (\$200) for which I get sufficient time to raise. I have arranged for the \$25.00 of this amount, but would like to get \$50. from you within a week, if it does not inconvenience you. I would not ask this before you

receive the fossils, but under the
 circumstances I do so, and think I
 shall be able to manage the rest. My
 father has promised to ~~help~~ help me
 to pay this claim, but - as farming ^{has} ~~has~~
 been rather unprofitable for the past
 two years I had been obliged to wait.
 I intend putting up a few collections
 and advertising them for sale, to
 high schools, or other institutions, and
 to have them properly named. I
 have quite a number of duplicates from
 several formations, and with the
 extra corals that I got on Manitoulin,
 (I brought back three hundred weight
 by freight) they should sell very
 readily. Mr. De Cew has sold quite a
 number of collections from the "Cornifer-
 ous Formation." The \$50 will be \$1 more
 than you should send me on receipt of fossils,
 but I think when you get "the extra ones"

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from Manitoulin you will not
consider this request unfair. Indeed
I wish I was able to come with them
~~and~~ myself but cheap excursions
are out of season just now, and
it will take me seven or eight days
yet, with Saturday afternoon, before
I can get them sent to you. Loss of
time and expenses of my Manitoulin trip
took a little over the \$50 I have
received, but I do not regret it, but
feel better able to give you a
good collection, besides making
my own better than it ever was.

With best wishes for you and
the McGill College, I remain,
yours sincerely,

J. Townsend,
691 Ontario Street.