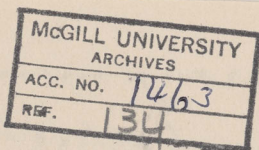


Huddle  
Sept 9



Avondale Road, Croydon  
Sept 9. 1892

Dear Sir William,

Your letter  
of 25 Aug and post-card of 26<sup>th</sup> have  
been duly forwarded to me from  
the Geolog. Soc. I am very pleased  
to hear of the success attending  
your further search of the  
sponge beds at Métis.

From your description  
and diagram, I am inclined  
to consider that the large sponges  
will require to be placed in a  
new genus. The rhombic

arrangement of the surface  
mesh which I presume is  
original and not due to sub-  
sequent pressure, will fur-  
nish one good generic dis-  
tinction. In most other hex-  
actinellids the mesh work is  
rectangular and this seems  
to be the case so far as I can  
make out with all the *Dietyo*  
*Spongidae* (i.e. *Dietyophyton* & its  
allies). In two of the forms  
described previously from Méto  
*Protospongia coronata* & *P. cy-*  
*athiformis*; there is an ob-  
lique arrangement and  
if this is original, which ap-  
pears to be the case, these



sponges might require to be placed distinct from Protospongia and this has indeed been suggested by Dr. Rauff in his review of your memoir in the Neues Jahrbuch 1892. 1 Band 2<sup>te</sup> Heft pp 458-60.

Your new form is quite distinct from the species just mentioned in having the mesh of bundles of fine spicules. — In the recent

Euplectella aspergillum there are obliquely placed spicular fibres but these are in addition and subordinated to the principal longitudinal and transverse fibres

I don't know of any other recent sponges which can be compared with your fossil in the character of the mesh and on this feature the new genus may well be based.

If you forward me a fragment I will do my best to compare it with other forms and will let you know the result. I shall much appreciate your kind offer to connect my name with the new form.

With best regards

Yours very sincerely

Sir J. W. Dawson / George J. Hinde  
F.R.S. &c.