

Read,
Allan House.
Slaughtone.

Leaf 95-

28th Jan'y. 1895.

Mr Deakin,

I duly received your interesting paper on the "Kivaloo Mollusks of the Coal Formation of N.S.," and your kind note of the 11th inst., with enclosure, is also to hand, for which I have to express my best thanks. Having been somewhat indisposed since the beginning of the year, (owing to a continuous run of hoarse weather), I have been prevented from acknowledging receipt of your paper sooner.

I am very pleased to observe that "Hind" has re-established your "Naiadites," and so far as I am in a position to judge, the evidence in favour of this, is of the strongest kind. I observe a Geol. Survey Memoir on Lancashire, 1873. states:

"Borrowing habits of *Antraconia* (King).
Specimens of *A. robusta*, and *A. acuta*, were

obtained in a vertical position, but none
of them burrowing. Walther considered
anthracosia to belong to the uniostridae,
yet it does not appear to have possessed
the eroded beaks of that family, and
with one exception Mycetopus this
family do not burrow.

Hyalina, Anthracomya, and Anthracostoma,
require much working up. Their affinities
and general structure are at present
in a very backward state.

I also observe in a paper of Mr Carrator,
Journal of Botany, 1873, he figures a specimen
from Orkney thus:



to which he states, though unable to offer any
interpretation of this curious fossil.

It seems to me to be your "Ptilophyton".

as to *Palaeospondylus*, it puzzles me to find
a supposed cartilaginous creature so well preserved,
while other associated bony fishes, (that is in
their outer aspect), are often nothing more
than a cast. Though a resemblance to
Myxine in the lower part of head exists,
it may be nothing more than what might
be expected in lower forms. This rough
sketch of *Myxine* may only be a superficial
resemblance, very far from possessing an
identical form, and besides all tissues are
perishable, but the teeth.



Myxine. Lower aspect of head.

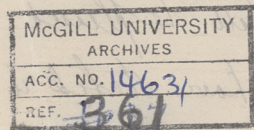
I hope, if the summer were proved again, to be
in Calicut, and may procure some new
specimens of *Palaeospondylus*, and if any ^{specimens} ~~things~~
of importance turn up, I shall be pleased
to forward them. I should have stated in
my last that owing to a plethora of

papers for the winter session, the time
allotted for the reading of my letter Parke paper
was only 15 to 20 minutes, I was therefore
under the necessity of limiting remarks
to the evidence strictly in favour of the
vegetable origin. I should have liked
to refer to the varieties of Parke, and
to Prof. Penhallow's very fine determination
of *Zosterophyllum*, but time did not
permit. I could not resist mildly
reviewing the evidence of Parke, and
returning the too graphic argument.

I find the copy I sent you not free
from errors (grammatical and others) which
I hope are now rectified, and I am
glad to adopt Prof. Penhallow's correction,
and thank both him, and yourself
for kindly glancing at the paper.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely
James Reid.



to S. W. Dawson F.R.S.
Montreal. 1