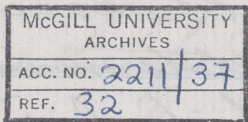


(Diagrammatic representation)

P.S. By Express a small boy



Oliver Micks

My Dear Dr Dawson

I was much obliged to you for your kind letter about the Porous Professorship. I had no knowledge of the vacancy at all till I came to Hamilton on a visit. When I heard of Dr Metcalf's being in the field I was pleased to think that one so well qualified by his knowledge & experience was available & had given up all idea of putting in an appearance. But the Drs friends were not judicious & seemed disposed to name every other body of the field & especially all Canadian

fossil
was found there is a seam of coal exposed on
the cliff about half way up. It is about
3 feet thick and has been worked to a
limited extent. About fifty yards ^{farther down stream} ~~above~~
^{there} the mouth of the opening I found a Manifest
fault. and a depression of the coal seam
to an extent of 12, or 15 feet from its original
line. On the lower ^{or western} side of the fault the base
of the coal seam came to the surface & this
^{faulting} brought down the overlying Woodville
Sandstone into the depression. While, all
around, ^{the W. Sandstone} ~~it~~ had been removed by denudation
it remained here & was exposed, from
the position of the fault for about 3/4 of
a mile up the river, on the escarpment.
It was about the middle of this depressed
Woodville Sandstone that we found the tree.
The "Woodville Sandstone" is I think the
upper member of the Carboniferous
rocks of Mich. It will thus be about
the horizon of the ~~Permian~~ Permian.
I do not know that this is precisely
what you wanted. Still, if you care

tell me what you think this tree to be
I shall feel obliged. I intend to visit the
place again & to make a more thorough
examination of it than I had time to do
when last there. It is strange to me
that altho this ledge is one of the
finest exposures of Carboniferous
rocks in the state no allusion has
been made to it in Winchells last
Report or in any reports that I
know of. In fact the Geo. Survey of this
State has, in Winchells hands, been
a perfect farce. The Legislature Com-
pelled him to resign. They point-blank
refused to print his Reports or to make
any appropriation for Geo. Sur. while
Winchell was at the head of it. He is
manifestly a great humbug. No depend-
ence is placed on what he has done
here. In fact he has done nothing but
made that fanciful discovery of the sub-
Carboniferous ^{about which he had a fight with Hall} ~~is now in other hands~~
but there are only two men at work

Two very distinct markings. In only one place about 6 inches in length was I able to raise the stone overlying it and there the markings were a little more distinct but still obscure.

These were cross indicated lines not mm-like a Calamite but not so distinct or continuous and about three inches apart. They were more of the character of a Sealy bark and were not accompanied with longitudinal striae.

The whole circumference had the appearance on a cross section, of concentric rings alternately Carbon & Iron and the heart of the tree was hard & solid.

The pieces I send you will give you an idea of what it was like. The outer part was so very friable that I could not secure a piece any size & the pieces I did get were all more or less reduced to bits by the time we got home. This tree is not known to me. I could not identify it with anything I had seen. It did not appear to be a Calamite and it had none of the marks of the Sigillariae.