



J. M. D.

Victoria B.C.

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Dear Father,

I have just been arranging
the collection of fossil plants from
Pursell previous to packing it up
for Montreal. I think there are
some things in it that will interest
you. Part of the specimens I got
while on the way up in August, & part
Mr S. & I help collected while on the way
down in October. The impressions
gleaves in white fine clay are from
beds immediately in contact with
the insect bed. There are a number
of curious little things among them which
I take to be the seeds of some tree like the

berch = . Something like this
magnified. There were also one
or two seeds like this  I which
seemed to be those of some composite
plant, but I am not quite sure
whether they have succumbed to friction
or not. Several of the leaves of one
species of plant seem to have had
some sort of fungus or gall growth
on them somewhat thus.

There are also some
fruits preserved as casts in
Sandstone. They appear to have been
nuts, & in many there is a carbonaceous
mass loose in the centre, still showing
the general form (in a more or less
imperfect way) of the shell. Most of
these interior arrangements seem to

have got cut or broken, but they seemed
to resemble butternuts, hickories, or walnuts.
Some of which seem to have had a soft green
meat which has left its impression in the
stone. There are also a few plants
from Blackwater. There was a maple
seed in very good preservation but I fear
it may not be recognisable on arrival,
also the seed of a cornus tree you
sent. It will be interesting to know
whether any leaves from Blackwater
survived or the same. The formation
is similar but they have been formed
in different basins.

These specimens will go next Saturday
but will not likely reach Montreal
till a week or two after this.

By the way. What became of the
part of the plant collection which
went to Hooker for determination

I remember seeing in a note you
forwarded me from someone at Kew
that they were waiting orders. They should
of course go to Cameron with the
rest.

With regard to the Boundary Commission
Palestine business, on the whole it
would seem best not to make any
application at present, but wait to
see whether any expedition on a large
scale is to be started.

I enclose advertisements of two books
I should be glad if you could order &
send to me by post.

I have finished the perusal of the "Dawn"
with much interest, & note the very favorable
review in the Saturday Review which reached
me from New York where I had no idea
you were.

Your affectionate son
George.