

WILLIAM COPLEY WINSLOW, PH.D., D.C.L., LL.D.
Vice-President and Honorary Secretary.

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Secretary.

525 Beacon St.

EGYPT EXPLORATION FUND,

OFFICE, 15 BLAGDEN STREET,

BOSTON, MASS. Feb 22 1896.

To Sir J. William Dawson LL.D. F.R.S.
S. & L. etc.

My dear Sir William:

I think that ere
this you must have been
officially informed that
the Egypt Exploration
Fund elected you its
Vice President for Caree,
in accordance with my
nomination, as I knew

of no one in Canada who
could shed more lustre upon
the position than yourself, &
at the same time had much
interest in our work. In October
I wrote to our Committee,
urging the formation of an
American Committee, to share
responsibilities, try to increase
our revenue, & to relieve me
of the strain - as I have, as
the founder of the "American
Branch", which has furnished
half the money for the
excavations and publications,
labored hard for 12-13
years to promote the cause

in Mexico, financially & educationally,
I think that Sumner is now being
organized - & though I have written
to London touching to me Mexico
matter of organization which were
in an official communication to me.

Mrs. Weston & I send you & family
ours are well, & with our best regards,
I am very sincerely yours,

Wm. G. Weston

Musculus
Feby 1866



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say that the "Expositor" is by our monthly theological magazines.

"Eden Lost and Won: Studies of the Early History and Final Destiny of Man as Taught in Nature and Revelation," by Sir J. William Dawson, LL.D., F.R.S. (London: Hodder and Stoughton).—Readers of the works of Sir William Dawson know well what to expect. A thorough knowledge of science in various departments of it, and a keen insight into the bearing of science on human history and on human progress. But they also find an aversion to critical science and an utter denial of the light and relevancy of criticism as it has been applied to the Hebrew Scriptures, this is the mark of all the books of the author. In the Preface the author says, "The time has come when the science of the earth and of man should take bolder ground than heretofore on the question of the validity of the literary and historical criticism which deals so freely with the earlier books of the Hebrew Scriptures. These records present themselves to the student of nature in special aspects. He alone can fully appreciate the internal evidence which they afford of antiquity and accordance with the earlier remains and monuments of our species. He alone can measure their accordance with physical facts open to observation in relation to the past, present, and future of humanity." The critic might thus retort,

"No amount of knowledge of physical science will fit a man or qualify him to pass an intelligent judgment on questions of literary interpretation, if he refuses to make use of the methods applicable to such processes. The mere student of nature is incapable of judging rightly on such questions, if he has not supplemented his training in science by a special training in the science of criticism." With all respect to Sir William Dawson, we do not find in his work any proof of that special knowledge which fits a man to be an authority on these questions. He has only opinions, he has not knowledge, and while he has said many valuable things, the specific questions he has raised cannot be settled by any means within his power. They can be settled, not by the method of natural science, but only by the wider, deeper method of historical science.

"Gleanings about Christ and Early Christianity," by J. H. Alexander (London: James Nisbet and Co.).—These gleanings are of interest and importance even as they are, but they might have been more useful if they had been more systematically arranged. As they are they are somewhat disjointed, and the effect is somewhat confusing. The book has some value, the facts have a certain degree of relevancy, and the quotations from many authors have a certain significance; but the procedure is hopelessly uncritical, and there is no discrimination between authors and writers of authority and those who have no authority. Newspaper reports are treated as if they had been deliberately corrected by the speakers, and as if they were full and adequate. Quotations are given, and the sources of the quotations are not given, and there are other characteristics of the book before us which tend to deprive it of any permanent value.

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