

53, Harley St
London. W.

Feb'y 18
1865

My dear Dawson

I ought to have congratulated you before this on the successful & as it has been truly called exhaustive investigation of the Eozoon Canadense. Our first authorities here on foraminifera have confessedly done little beyond confirming your views & it is one of the most remarkable steps made in our time & a wonderful conquest in the azoic region. I hope long ere this you have got my new edition which was sent you by book-post. I shall be glad of any criticisms. The short-comings in some chapters e.g. the Permian are well known to myself, but I had not time.

Have you seen Heer's "Urwelt der Schweiz"
I wish I had read it before I published

though I possessed it, I dared not undertake what to me would have been slow work, the deciphering the German. I am doing so now & learning how much is known of the fructification of Sigillaria & other coal-plants. Probably much less of this will be new to you.

When I was at Berlin a month ago I saw in the library some new numbers of the beginning of a beautiful work in quarto on the coal-plants of Saarbrück by ^{Dr.} Von Goldenberg with numerous plates admirably executed the publisher's name at Saarbrück is "Neumann" the title "*Flora Sarsapontana fossilis Die Flora der Vorwelt Saarbrückens.*"

You speak in one of your letters of Devonian insects I do not remember any European ones older than the carboniferous so if you can figure even one of them in the Canadian Naturalist it would do credit to that periodical.

I have not yet seen your paper nor your new additions to the Post Office

But you cannot be better employed for
the botany especially of that period
has been lamentably neglected here in
the Gray's Sherwood beds which were
full of leaves in some of the laminated
clays might if there had been collectors
in that line as there were of the fresh
water shells & elephants bones have
told us that the Chinete was in
Post Pliocene times in the valley
of the Thames.

When you wrote you were afraid
of a party in Canada which were
doing their best to get the Empire
into a war with the U. S. I don't
have justified your anxiety but I
trust that the raid has caused a
reaction. I am sorry to hear that
the Federation of the Provinces will in
your opinion throw back the cover

of education. When there are two
faces who will not amalgamate
there is always mischief and I have
always expected that the Anglo-Saxon
element would as in Louisiana get
the better of the French. But it may
take perhaps more time than I thought
for I am sorry that your energies
should have to be expended on obtaining
guarantees which the Roman Catholics
would be slow to afford if they can
avoid it. The struggle which our
Irish colleges have to make is a
hard one & makes some of the professors
I know there uneasy. The state of
the South of France shows that
retrograde movements may be made
even in these days by the influence
of the ultra-montane party. They
say there are more novitiate schools
in Toulouse than before the
Revolution