Montreal Apr. 17. 1871

My Dear Sir

I have nearly finished my sketch of the geology of Canada for Hitchcock & and approach the Quaternary, venture to ask your aid, if possible. I am sure that if you could furnish a brief sketch of the geology of the stratified drifts, as none but yourself can do it. It would be doing a great service to American geology. For I fear no one else will take up the subject for this N.E. region. It does not enter into my plan to give lists of fossils or detailed descriptions of phenomena, but only to sketch in broad lines the history of the time. So I think you could do it in a few pages. My whole sketch will not cover more than 20 pages of Silliman's Journal (excluding my general introduction of the Palaeozoic geology which will be much more) I have not spoken to Hitchcock about going to you for I fear your occupations would make

unwilling to undertake it -- You know how
Hall's Atlas will be a text book
& authority for a long time to come for the
students of American Geology & would depend on
the work being properly done -

I wish also to consult you about what I sus-
pect is a new word to wit faunal, as per-
taining to fauna. We have floral, feral, etc.
& I think faunal a good word. Though I
do not find it in Webster I am not certain
whether I have ever met with it. I have
written "faunal conditions" referring to
the conditions of life as shown in its
distribution in different parts of the sea bot-
tom. Also "faunal break" an interrup-
tion in the succession of the fauna. instead
of the clumsy word hitherto used "paleon-
tological break". Tell me what you think
of the word I have used -

I send you on Saturday the Nouveau
Monde with the articles French

Education marched — I have in the last
nation a second article on the Origin
of Species, a review of Darwin's "Descent
of Man". In which the writer shows
that Darwin seems to be abandoning
his ground. Leaning to Owen's & the
"Vestiges" view of the origin of species.
I think you approved of putting the
previous article on the origin of species
from the Nation, in the Naturalist —
but write to be sure before I hand it
in. With best regards I remain
My dear Sir
Very faithfully Yours.
T. Sterry Hunt

Dr. J. W. Dawson

P S Hunt
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