

Begally May 21 April 25.71
89 Glaston Place
P. Sg.

My dear Dawson

I recd you many thanks for the
letter with which you favoured me a few
days ago - It told me that you are in full
action and that Mrs Dawson and her family
are well -

Your son here is stronger in health and
more capable of intellectual and bodily labour
than last winter - He is doing well - and
as far as I have been able to ascertain he has
not a grievance -

He called here the other
day, and was of much use - I was not at home
and he supplied my absence in naming a geologi-
cal work suitable to a young lady in whom
we are interested, who is "fanatica per geologia"

The book is bought and highly prized -
I am surprised and puzzled by the delay in
the publication of your plant-paper - I have
put

myself in the way of learning something about it
several times - but I have learnt nothing -
I feel confident that eventually the Society
will deal honorably by your valuable paper

I therefore would by no means rush into
print at your own expense - and the expense
would be great - I trust in your excusing my
unasked-for advice - Books on these subjects
are more given away than sold - It has proved
so with my Thesaurus Silvicus - but certain
temporary events ^{at the time} have made this of little conse-
quence to me -

Your friend Sir Charles Lyell is in better health
than he was - & looks hale and rugged -
He is working hard at a new edition of his
Principles -

The Editor of the Leisure Hour is a thirty years
friend of mine - He was then the tutor in an
aristocratic family who employed me as an
MD. and a very excellent man he is -
Dr Macaulay asked my opinion about
your

popular geology in his periodical - I conscientiously
told him that they were true, suitable &
pleasant reading - I think occasional papers
of that kind would help him much - The periodical
however has immense circulation.
A very remarkable man Mr Parker F.R.S., a
surgeon, has been writing on frogs & frog life in
the City Road Magazine, a Wesleyan publication
Parker tells a good story nicely - but not with quite
the same "movement" that you do - He is a strong
man in considerable practice -

The Geological Society is doing well - There was a meeting
10 days ago, distinguished by a great speech I am told
from Geikie, the new professor of Geology at Edinburgh
He has been at death's door from illness contracted
during a visit to the Lipari Islands (Mediterranean)
I am much too weak in the evening to go to the Geol. meetings
My own Devonian Thesaurus may be said to be
done; but I have delayed the Commentary in order
to construct a Thesaurus Carboniferous (or some other
name) - This is nearly completed in the rough - &
will give great additional interest to the Devonian
Commentary - I have just returned from a

Lecture at the RL Institution by Pengelly on the
Red Rock of Devonshire - at Torquay Budleigh Salter
ton - and worked a poor subject admirably - very
so full of "go" & rattle - gave old matter all the air
recent birth - Principal Dawson had personally
explained to him the cause of the green discoloration
on sandstone & slate - and finished with pronounced
Dr Dawson quite right, after a variety of pros & cons.

I believe him to be a very worthy man in his
private conduct - but his religious opinions I
am not certain of -

I am beyond measure astonished and grieved in our
failure to procure Mrs Hopkins a pension - ^{The application} ~~It~~ was sup-
ported most powerfully - but in vain -

Please to tell Mrs Dawson that my dear wife keeps
her in happy remembrance - as well as Miss Dawson
give them both my love -

I am my dear Dawson
very sincerely yours.

J. J. Beagby

of course, anything new in the
way of Devonian or farland life
will be most gratefully received

Remember me to Hunt & to poor Bollinger