

New Bedford
Jan 16

Belcher Town Mass. U.S.A.

Prof. J. W. Dawson

Sir: I have just read,

with interest, your article
in the International Review,
on "Insectivorous Plants", in
review of Darwin's ~~work~~.

After the reading of the article, upon
thinking it over, I was led to
question whether this point might
not ^{also} be made, in rebuttal of Darwin's
arbitrary Christian inference from his
discovered facts in regard to the
destruction of the higher to some

the purposes of the lower -

Is it not true that by the decay of the lower orders of vegetation, upon poorer soils, as the Mosses, and, especially in this instance, of the sne dews, the soil is enriched and made capable of higher orders of vegetation, which higher orders of vegetation would ~~ultimately~~ be for the purposes of man, and for animals ^{other} below him but much above the ~~rest~~ insects upon which the sne-dews have fed, and by whose life ^{with their form} they have enriched the soil for the purposes of the higher animals. In this way

might we not maintain that
the death of the insect was
ultimately for the purpose of
higher animals and in
entire keeping with the great
law of the death of the lower
in order for the life of the
higher. The sun does not
not go in search of nitrogenous
matter. Therefore God has arranged
~~ed~~ that nitrogenous matter
should come to it, upon a poor
soil that ^{thus} the soil may be ^{helped to} ~~able~~
^{become able} to support higher life.

Is this a legitimate reply
or is it not?

I enjoyed very much your
address at the meeting of the
Evangelical Alliance as also,
since then, reading your books,
"The Story of the Earth and Man"
and the published course of
lectures before Union Theol. Sem. of
the institution. I am an Alumnus.

By the former of these books, wh.
alone I possessed at the time, I was
aided very much in a newspaper
discussion wh. was precipitated upon
me by an open attack upon a sermon
of mine an abstract of wh. appeared
in our ^{local} County paper ~~and wh.~~ wh.
discussion was somewhat prolonged.

I have presumed to address you because
of my interest in the article and ⁱⁿ the subject;
and I have mentioned these last facts because I
know that a clerical preacher enjoys knowing the
approbation of his hearers. If your hearers I am
an interested one. Raymond W. Lyman
A. Congregational Pastor