

to Dr Crane

MANSE OF THE THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

NO. 30 WALNUT STREET,

Newark, N. J.,

March 1st 1878

Principal Dawson, L.L.D.

Dear Sir,

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 2211/60
REF. 24

You may possibly recall my name as having been signed to two or three letters addressed to you by me as Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the College of New Jersey.

I have been deeply interested in reading your recent work entitled "The Origin of the World", which came into my hands only last week. My interest in the perusal was en-

hanced by the fact that many of the positions taken by you are similar to several taken by me in an Article published last October in the Princeton Review. Indeed so great is the similarity that many curious readers might suppose that I had copied from you without acknowledgement. I need only say that my Article was written more than a year ago, and that it was placed in the hands of the Editors of the Review about the time of the date of your

Preface, May 1877. I take the liberty of sending you a reprint of that Article.

My object in addressing you is to ask your attention to my remarks upon the general use of the term Science as the equivalent of Inductive Science, and, still more restrictedly, of Physical Inductive Science.

I need not say any thing to you concerning the power of a generally employed term in directing & controlling thought; I may add, however,

that my experience as a Pastor
has convinced me that much
of the influence of such men
as Huxley, Tyndall, Draper,
&c, over the minds of the
young, is due to their un-
challenged mis-appropriation
of the terms Science & Scientists
(i.e. Knowledge & Knowers).

My main object in
writing the Article I send you,
was to call attention to the
mis-appropriation of these
terms. I am, however, an
inexperienced (in physical science)
& unknown man; my views

may be incorrect or extreme, & even if they are right my voice can exert little or no influence.

I trust you will not regard me as intrusive or presumptuous in requesting you, an acknowledged Master in Physical Inductive Science, to give me your opinion as to the validity and value of the positions I have taken on this subject.

Permit me to add that I regret the publication of my article before your Works came into my hands. Its perusal would have led to

the modification of one or two
of my statements.

With great respect, I remain,

Yours, very truly,

R. Braven.

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
ACC. NO. 2211/60
REF. 29