

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
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McLosh  
College of New Jersey.

Princeton, N. J., April 4 1878

My Dear Dr Dawson

I am glad you are to take our call into serious consideration. May you be rightly guided by a Higher Power.

I write at present to say that we are not pushing you as to time. The fact is that if you decline, which I hope, you may not, we do not know where to look for a geologist of repute who is not a Darwinian. We feel it to be of vast moment not only for ourselves but for <sup>the Country</sup> you in the United States to guide opinion at this critical time. It is surely a providence that both the College and the Seminary have been able unanimously to write on you. Vast consequences depend on your decision. I may be wrong. But I believe, you might with the blessing have more weight over public opinion here than you can have in Montreal. The United States are not after all so wild as England is. You might help us to keep us stable on this Continent.

I might enlarge on your duties if you  
come here. I am ready to give you information  
on any point. I am ready to take sugges-  
tions as to what should be your prece-  
dence field. In fact I believe I can make it  
what you would wish it to be. This we  
could do either by correspondence or by  
meeting. Palaeontology with perhaps a little  
biology in all a few hours a week in  
the Academic and Scientific Depart-  
ments and a lecture or two a week for  
six months or so in the Seminary, on the  
relations of Science to Religion - all familiar  
and interesting subjects to you, and some  
work with advanced ~~students~~ and post  
graduates. I would expect you to be especially  
influential in our School of Science in  
which I am not a Master. I would expect  
you largely to form it. But your influence  
would extend over our whole <sup>academic</sup> ~~graduating~~ depart-  
ment, <sup>where we graduate in 2 or 3 years</sup> and over the rising ministry of the  
Presbyterian Church.

My regards special to Mrs Dawson  
Yours ever  
James W. Cook  
Punapal Dawson