

McGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
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Dec^r. 5/70 Byrd
89 Gt. Pl.
P. Sq.

My dear Dawson

I have just received

the enclosed - and send it some

ceremonie - I have marked with

a cross nearly all that promises

to be suitable - Mr Blake I have

not crossed because I have an

impression that his religious senti

ments would enquire into - but

this may be an erroneous impression

I like Tiddeman - and Meloe is

out of the ordinary - hardy and

active — But I particularly

wish

to tell you of a most superior paper
on the Coal-formation of Central France
by Grand'Eury - I know of nothing
in print comparable - It is pp. 630
- quarto - with 34 exquisite plates

Your name is frequently mentioned
Very many new and very interesting
subjects are elaborately treated & well
the list of fossils. large - strate. =
graphically - and geographically
- beyond the bounds of France -

I know of but one copy ^{at Roy. Institut} in London
The British Museum may have one
It was published at Paris ⁱⁿ 1877
It is in Vol: XXIV of *Mémoires*

présentées par divers Savants à l'Académie
des Sciences de l'Institut de France
1877

There are two sets of these memoirs
It is in the ~~extra~~ set, présentées par
divers Savants, that this memoir is
in — Wesley, Trübner, or Loewe
would get it — or some Montreal man

The Royal Society dinner went off well
103 guests — Hooker's address at the
11 o'clock meeting was long and interest-
ing — ~~almost~~ ^{mostly} ~~entirely~~ botanical — and
about Darwin and his son Frank

I do not at all like the hands into
which the Royal Society & the Royal
Institution has fallen — Belief in no
God ~~no the bible~~ no bible is openly para-
= ed -

I hope your strength is still

continued to you — and that you permit
your dear Wife to watch over you —
I am in some fear about you — that you
are draining too fast — an old & successful
trick of Satan —

You are aware that Ramsay has had
an eye scooped out for malignant disease
He is now in a sense well — & in good spirits
Etheridge's only son has just been appointed
first Assistant Naturalist at British Museum
at £250 per ann — to rise to £450 — He is

I am amusing myself with notes from
the Th: Devon Carbon. on the relations
of extinct life — I am a good way on
but I do not expect to live to finish & publish
I am prepared for my summons at cockcrow
&c

My sincere esteem please present to
Mrs Dawson — and the late Miss Dawson, late
Dec. 5/78 I am dear Dawson
yours very sincerely
J. S. Bigsby