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Copy to Hooker

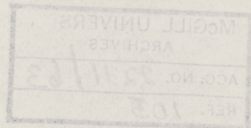
McGill College,  
Montreal.

Dec 18, 1878

My dear Sir,

I have just been reading with some interest your annual address as President of the Regue Society and especially that part of it which relates to my friend Count Siefert's views as to the northern origin of the palaeartic flora. I think it right however to call your attention as President

after Royal Society (of late  
President) to the fact  
that these views will  
fully expounded by me  
in the Hall of the Royal  
Society in the winter  
of 1870 as results of  
my studies of the  
Devonian & Silurian flora  
of North-eastern America,  
in connection with those  
of Prof. Hall in relation  
to the fauna. It is true  
that neither Fleiss nor  
DuRoi who have later  
arrived at the same



See 18, 18 1878  
M. G. Hall  
M. G. Hall

to the oldest Lower Carboniferous  
of Europe is of the age  
of their so-called "Culm",  
just as they still call  
our Cretaceous & Eocene  
floras Miocene.

I may add that the  
views which you have just  
promulgated as news were  
repeated in my Report on the  
Fossil Plants of the Lower Carboniferous  
& Millstone Grit in 1873 and in  
a more popular form in the  
Supplement to Canadian Geology  
1878; a copy of which I will  
send to you.

Excuse me for troubling  
you on this matter, and believe  
me

Yours truly  
J. Dawson

Sir Joseph Hooker C.B.  
we

want of an intelligent  
 appreciation of the  
 older Palaeozoic flora  
 of Eastern America,  
 the knowledge of which  
 would certainly have  
 been more useful  
 had my paper of  
 1870 been published.

This will be obvious to  
 you when I mention that  
 Beer and Schimper still seem  
 to think that the Middle  
 Devonian flora of this country  
 found in rocks which were  
 disturbed and altered before  
 the deposition of beds equivalent

Conclusions are much to  
be blamed for suppressing  
them to the news since  
the Council of the Royal  
Society declined to publish  
my paper, which without  
taking any credit to  
myself I may affirm to  
have been in consequence  
of the mass of news  
facts contained in it  
the most important contri-  
bution to the older Floras  
ever offered to any Euro-  
pean Society.

I deemed an abridged  
publication of my facts and

results by the Geological Survey  
of Canada and you  
will find them stated  
at pp 79 & 82 of my  
Report on the Fossil Plants  
of the Upper Silurian and  
Devonian of Canada, 1871.

I may add that  
in my judgment a  
large part of the  
vegetable palaeontology  
of all the recent Arctic  
expeditions has to be  
done over again in  
consequence of the