



~~McGill~~
University
St. Andrews
Scotland

Sept. 25th/80

Dear Principal Dawson,

I write a
line to thank you very heartily
for the copy of your capital
work on "The Chain of Life"; which
I can not doubt will be highly
appreciated by the reading &
thoughtful public.

I believe I have been in debt to
you for a letter for some time;
but my leisure has been so limited
that I have not yet found the
opportunity of discharging my

Obligation. I have, too, not yet
found time to examine the specimens
of Chaetetes tumidus & exilis, which
you kindly sent me; but I hope this
winter to be able to publish some-
thing connected with the Monticuli-
poroides, & I shall look into these
forms before doing so.

I think I told you some time ago
that our University here had
fallen into serious financial
embarrassment, gravely affecting
the incomes of the Professors. Things
continue in this unfortunate
condition, or if possible are worse
than before; & if no relief be given
us by Government, I suppose some
of us (including myself) will

have to look out for new quarters.
In the face of possible eventualities
of this nature, I should greatly
value an expression of your opinion
in regard to my fitness to hold such
a post as my present Chair, if
you should feel yourself justified
in furnishing me with one.
Trusting that you are well, &
with kind regards

I am,

yours very sincerely,

H. Alleyne Nicholson