

Fail  
July 1883

Barnesville O

Esteemed Friend,

12-29-1882

Thy letter of Dec 22, and quoting  
came duly to hand. Many thanks for the  
favor shown. I am somewhat at a loss to  
know what to do, as in my letter to thee of  
recent date I stated that I would send the  
evidence "about the last of the year," as what  
I sent thee was merely a postulate which  
I proposed to prove in the next letter; but  
as thou said nothing <sup>in</sup> thy letter about  
being willing to receive my evidence,  
I feel a delicacy in sending it.  
However as I have looked over my MSS  
and compiled therefrom, some evidence  
I will send the compilation, and with  
this, sufficient stamps for its return,  
so that if thou art inclined to look

over what I have written, thou can do as at thy leisure, and then re- turn it; and if thou hast no inclination to spend any time with it, thou canst re- turn it and <sup>please</sup> ~~send~~ ask pardon for the trouble.

In thy letter thou ~~thanks~~ <sup>thanked</sup> the Annals. They cannot account for the "geological formations deposited slowly & gradually in water usually abounding in life." When thou hast read the evidence that thou wilt see that "slow & gradual" deposition is made a very important part of the evidence. All beds, except mechanical & rushing-water-deposits, it- will be seen required great-length of time. Thus the 'Archæon in which the Eozon lived, was deposited from excessively turbid & mineral-laden waters during immersion periods. & all beds of vital origin must have required a long time. The theory only shows the original origin of each bed. ∴ Thus the lime deposited by vital agency, was supplied largely by new waters rather than by denuda- tion alone, and every new supply must have required a vast-length of time & deposits the matter that impreg- nated it either as sediment - or by vital process. However, the coarse sediments which geologists claim are more rapidly formed, & the fact that fossils are sometimes abundant in these beds, seem & prove that the fauna of the lo- cality were involved in the catastrophe (As shown by the flood deposits of Post- Glacial time.)

One word for the manuscripts I have sent. In looking over them I see that - they do not show a master-hand in their arrangement. I have simply aimed to show that <sup>the</sup> differences between the view concerning beds, & the Annals theory is merely in the manner & time of the return of matter driven out from the heated earth. The former idea

is that they all returned in pri-  
mordial times, & the latter claims  
<sup>that</sup> they could not possibly do so.

I hold that this can be proven  
by Mathematical demonstrations, & the  
papers I send are merely to show that  
the geological & Biblical record agree them-  
selves. I am not the man to trouble  
any one, & I will not say or write  
any thing further to thee in defence  
of the theory, <sup>unless thou desires more of it,</sup> as I might therefore impose  
on good Nature. I will send thee  
a little "scrip" from my pen in  
return for thy Christmas greeting, penned  
on the Atlantic shore, some time after  
the last "Great Downfall"

Very Truly

Isaac N. Vail

Barnesville

Belmont Co

Ohio

Prof' J. W. Dawson