

Blenheim, Marlborough, N. Zealand,

Dear Sir John W^m Dawson.

I have taken the liberty to write to you which doubtless you will pardon when you know my object in doing so and which I will at once state. Lately I read a brief account in the Nelson Church Recorder ~~of~~ a brief account of your sentiments on The Age of the World, etc. and as I have written much on that and kindred subjects as Creation and Deluge which are united my wish is to forward to you a M.S on Dr. C. Hitchcock's Religion of Geology for your perusal. It is not in support of the Dr's Writings but ^{to} point out his mistaken theory. The work consists of 220 pages.

It has been my study (for consideration)

more or less from the year 1832
when the great conference ^{was} held on
The Finding of the Animals' Bones
in the Frigid Zone, and regions.

I have read the principal geolo-
gical works written since that time
Lyell's Antiquity of Man, Elements
of Geology with other works. Hugh
Miller's also - and have written
the results of my considerations
upon them. One manuscript was
sent to London about 18 years ago,
no one would publish it, saying
It was contrary to the Science of the
day, but one Publisher said, "If we
publish that M.S. all our Geologic-
al works will go out of use".

One other M.S. was in the care of
Capt. Petrie for several years at the

Victoria Institute for several years, but no Publisher would publish it for the same reason. Consequently the early chapters of Genesis are not to be received as they are given by Moses.

My writings substantiate the truth of the Mosaic account of Creation by the magnitude and superiority of both the flora and fauna that have and still are found in coal beds and other places in countries in all regions and zones of the earth all of great magnitude and the animal remains also testify that there was an evidence of the perfection of God's work which he pronounced "Very Good," meaning, Perfect.

But there have been also many evidences of the truth of Moses ac-

count of the Deluge and that it was universal. Hugh Miller with many more has made wrong suppositions on several subjects but years gone by when my head was former and nerves more adapted I wrote many hundreds of pages some of which are now in my possession, others are gone. An idea has been on my mind that Moses was 80 years old when he stood before Pharaoh, and Aaron 83 that my time for success may be at hand: in few ^{days} my 80th year will be up.

My attention has been devoted to every point that has been raised against the Writings in Genesis, and have to my own conscience proved my points, and now ~~a~~ am willing to get it sent forth to the world

2 Not being at home, cannot count them all up. My nerves being broken down, have been from home 10 days in different places - yet I may mention some of my researches on this part of my studies.

Lyall's Antiquity of Man.

Do. Elements of Geology

Dr. E. Hitchcock's Religion of Geology

Hugh Miller's Works

Figur. translated from Fr. by Bristow.

Life in the Primeval World with many others.

A discussion took place in one of the cities in Northern Europe on...

Did the ancients drag the large animals ~~drag~~ into caves and eat them?

I had written a piece on Professor Ward's Letter to the Rochester Democrat and sent it ^{but} to this convention but did not hear anything of its effects on the recipients.

My object in troubling you is to inform you that an humble person of 80 years has been for many ^{years} ~~been of the same~~ years _{mind}

as you must be according to the report.

I had intended to Post to Montreal
my N. S on Dr. H's Book but do not
know whether I can reach home time
enough for the Post So please be in ex-
pectation of it.

It may be that my strength may
rally - and I get my nerves again
have medicine home but want it
here.

My home ^{is} 25 miles from here at
Wairau Valley Marlborough
New Zealand

Am at a Son's House at Blenheim
and wish to Post this at once to be
sure - expect a daughter to day
Feb. 15, 1897 to drive me home
tomorrow. Am very nervous but
can walk am likely to get strong
again.

I am Sir J. W. Dawson
Your Ob. Servant James White.

Jas White
New Zealand
March 97

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
ACC. NO.	1463
REF.	973

My son, John
Horse Valley
Kendallburgh
New Zealand
John's address is
John's Bay - York's corner
Kendallburgh -
New Zealand.