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From Alex. Forrester, Presbyterian Minister, and Superintendent
of Education for Nova Scotia.

(Copy)

Halifax, Dec 4, 1854.

It affords me much pleasure to bear testimony
to the high attainments of Mr Dawson in various branches
of Natural History.

Though I had often heard of the geological
researches of Mr Dawson in these provinces, and his con-
tributions to the Geological Society of London, I made his ac-
quaintance only five years ago, on occasion of his delivering a
course of lectures on natural history in Dalhousie College,
Halifax. These lectures were given at the request of the
Trustees of that institution, were largely attended and highly
appreciated. Since then I have enjoyed much friendly
intercourse with him, and repeatedly heard him lecture
before the Mechanics' Institute, and also at the late
Provincial Industrial Exhibition, and am more and more firmly
persuaded that Mr D is not only a complete enthusiast in
Natural History, but possessed of extensive attainments in
all its ~~branches~~ departments, especially in Mineralogy and
geology both theoretical and practical, as well as a
great aptitude in communicating his stores of knowledge
to others.

I know something of the diversified qualifications necessary
for the Chair of Natural History in the University of ~~Halifax~~, and
have no hesitation in saying that should Mr Dawson be chosen to
occupy that honourable position, he will not only do credit to the
University but advance largely the general interests of Science
(Signed) Alex^r Forrester, Minister

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