

changed with 574 East Broadway, Boston, Mass
November, 23. 1875

My dear Sir,
Looking over the last No. of the
"Popular Science Monthly", a day or two since,
in a notice of you and of your contributions
to Science, I learned that you had contri-
buted to the Royal Society of Edinburgh a paper
"on the Boulder Formation". It is a subject
which for many years has engaged much of
my attention, in the few hours of leisure which
I was enabled to give to it, with the desire of
being able to refer all its phenomena to the
Flood - Believing in the plenary inspiration
of the Bible, I of course receive the Noetic
delay as a fact, and I think that the
boulder and drift formation are wholly
attributable to that Cataclysm. I have
supposed that the Flood was caused by the
agency of some attractive force, drawing the
waters of the Southern Hemisphere over the
regions of Central Asia and the northern
portions of this Continent; and that in the
tumultuous reflux of these waters, heavily

charged with earthy detritus, we can see clearly the formation of the drift - the striating of exposed rocky surfaces, and the reason why the largest boulders are invariably found nearest to their sources of departure. I think also that the deposits of fossil bones found near the Arctic Circle can be explained on this supposition, as being the reliquiae of tropical animals swept northward by the access of the Deluge, and deposited in their present position while the waters were comparatively at rest for 2 or 3 weeks, before their return to the South.

It might not be wholly uninteresting to you to be informed that my thoughts were first turned to this subject by a townsman of your own (Dr. Gesner) whose acquaintance I made as long ago as 1830, while traveling in the Stage from Windsor to Annapolis. He drew my attention to the fact that all along the Annapolis valley, through Aglesford, Wilmost & Janville, the northern side of the valley was deeply covered with soil, while the S. side was denuded and covered with boulders - and stated that the same features

Secured in all letters which can not be lost.

My good Mr. Cranbury you will find "Communications" is
to be given by whom your "History of the South and West" are
published - in this country or in England - I have seen
no copy of it in this City and I am anxious to procure
it - I trust that you will excuse the liberty taken
by an entire stranger in thus addressing you. I
remain, dear Sir
Very sincerely yours

(New York) Wm. A. R. Smith

Stephen Dawson & Co. N.Y.

274 West Broadway, Boston, Mass.
November 23. 1875

Chapel

changed with early detritus, as can be
 clearly the formation of the drift. The strata
 of exposed rocky surfaces, and the reason
 why the largest boulders are invariably found
 nearest to the sources of detritus. I think
 also that the detritus of fossil bones found
 near the great Quind can be explained on
 the supposition, as being the remains of
 a species of the same kind, and deposited in them
 at least for 2 or 3 weeks before their
 return to the earth.
 It might not be wholly uninteresting to you
 to be informed that my thoughts were first turned
 to this subject by a discussion of your own Dr.
 (General) there (consequently) I made a long
 ago in 1830, while travelling in the State from
 Hamilton to Saratoga. It has been my intention
 to the fact that the along the Saratoga valley,
 through Schoharie, West of Hamilton, the northern
 side of the valley was deeply covered with soil,
 while the N. side was rounded and covered
 with boulders. I stated that the same features