

Stewart 5 South Crown St Aberdeen
Dec 75 - 6th Dec. 1875-

Rev. Principal Dawson

Dear Sir

I cannot sufficiently apologise for my long delay in acknowledging reception of your very kind and explicit letter bearing on the Days of Creation, concerning which I made inquiry. Perhaps the strongest reason for delay lies in this - that I was anxious to come to a final decision in my own mind before I should write. but I may tell you plain that my mind has been longer open & hence less definitely fixed on this point than on any other point in all God's Word.

I note the books you refer to in your letter & have them all but one, & will try to have it soon, too, but without flattery I may say that I regard your own opinion as equal in value to any other opinion you may recommend. Beside opinion however, you give reasons for your conclusion in your very kind letter, & these I do not mean to assail, but regarding that one in Psalm 90 I may say that it does not seem to me to be quite conclusive. — With the Lord "one day is as a thousand years." Moses here seems to illustrate and magnify the idea of the eternity of God, but suppose I were to

give a case somewhat analogous and say, in order to magnify the ~~the~~ wealth of a millionaire — that with him one dollar is the same as a thousand — would not "one dollar" mean literally one dollar, and a thousand ~~literal~~ literal dollars? Then would not "one day" in the 90th Psalm mean simply one literal day? and "a thousand years" simply a thousand ^{years} ~~years~~ made up of literal days?

The other reasons you give seem to me stronger than the foregoing, & might be to me quite conclusive were it not that the difficulty which seems insuperable — that Moses used a word & gave it a meaning which in the

nature of things could
not have been understood
till Geology was developed
as a Science, and this
too while speaking plain
and popular that the
people of this day might
understand him —
stands in the way. Never-
theless I hope you will accept
of my very cordial thanks
for the statement of reasons
you so frankly made.

As a member of the "Victoria
Institute" I look forward with
pleasure to the subject of your
paper set down for Monday the
20th March.

I have also resolved to have
your book — "Life's Dawn on Earth"
which I see to day announced
in Hoddler & Staughtons list.

I may mention that George Forbes
who taught for some time a few years
ago in Mc Gill College, & then came home
(and died) was a fellow townsman & in-
timate acquaintance of mine.
I am most truly yours
Alex^r Stewart.