

M. Gill College.
Montreal.

July 15, 1878

My dear Sir,

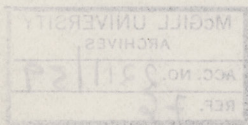
As you have been
kind enough to ask my
opinion of Prof de Cuvier's
Elements of Geology, I
may say that in my
judgment it is especially
valuable for the ad-
vanced student as for
the general reader as
giving a clear and
condensed summary of
the facts bearing on
Dynamical and Structural

Geology and as bringing
in illustrations from
those more recently explored
Western regions, the com-
parison of which with
the more familiar Eastern
American and European
districts is so well fitted
to enlarge our conceptions
of geological fact and
theory.

The chemical
geology is well brought up

Ch. Darwin
1881

too late, but has many
of the defects of classification
which prevail in other
text-books, and is not
improved in my estimation
by its reference to ridiculous
"lines of descent" of species of
animals and plants,
which having no foundation
in fact should not appear
in any elementary work



Copy to James
G. P. P.

to state, but the meaning
of the defects of classification
which however is
text-books, and is not
impaired in very extensive
reference to historical
values of descent of the
animals and plants,
which having in former
in fact been in app-
a very elementary work

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