

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
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Jackson Mich.

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Prof. Hanson

Dear Sir,

You once replied very kindly to a letter of mine and also sent me a specimen of "Ezoeris". I would feel grieved and embarrassed to again presume upon your kindness if I knew that I annoyed you. I am very deeply interested in Geology but am obliged to pursue the study alone aside from the aid of books. In my quiet home - with my beautiful cabinet - (much of which I collected myself) I become so fascinated that I often wish for a word of help and encouragement. There is no Geologist

in one city and I am unacquainted
with any elsewhere. My love for the
study is so great I would gladly
avail myself of all possible help
yet - I shrink from troubling
strangers.

The "Glacial Age" is harder
for me to understand than all
the preceding periods. All accounts
I have been able to obtain are
unsatisfactory. Was there one great
coating of ice only - followed by a
flood - or was there a succession of
ice-caps for an indefinite period?

Taking the variations in the
eccentricity of the Earth's orbit as
the cause of the glacial period, it
seems as if the climate must
have remained Arctic until
the Earth got back again to where
the change began. I realize that
I express myself very imperfectly -
Some authors mention "inter-glacial

periods" but - the length of time is not at all clear to me.

I often wish I had some real work on Zoology given me to do or some lessons mapped out for me. I enjoy the little store of knowledge I have gained but desire to study systematically.

I am almost-frightened that I have appealed to you but can only plead my enthusiasms as my excuse.

Please find enclosed a stamp should you think best to reply but - whatever may be your decision allow me to thank you for your kindness in the past.

Yours Very Respectfully

Mrs. E. W. Gilbert.

Dear

James S. Whitney.

Mr. J. L. Hunt