

My dear Dawson

March 10<sup>th</sup> / 1879  
St. George's

I am glad to turn my poor thoughts to my esteemed Montreal friends - I hope you are all fairly well and in full swing of agreeable and useful employment - I am sorry to know that you do too much you! Mr President! I know that the brain does wear out - and a miserable condition of mind follows - as in the case of Southey the poet and one of my London medical associates -

I see you busy in many things - in a new subject just now - on some form of "poor" which I just now cannot call to memory -

Private subscriptions should be made to enable select naturalists, Geologists &c

to prosecute ill understood points, free of  
money or business cares - These things deprive  
us at this moment of your best efforts -  
You probably have seen Professor <sup>Abich</sup> Albych  
Devonian Palaeont<sup>y</sup> in Armenia (Araxes  
River) It is a handsome addition to our  
knowledge - and so is still more Kayser's  
Devonian Pal.<sup>y</sup> of Thuringia. Both books  
have <sup>many</sup> good plates -  
The Council of the Geol. Soc has given the Wollay  
- ton medal to Hubert of Paris, the Lyell to  
Studer the Murckison to <sup>and the</sup>  
Bigsby. to Cape of the Reptiles (Aravica)

I hope George is employed - At the same  
time he should be cautioned against over-  
- fatigue & exposure - European opinion talks  
highly of him -

Hunt was made much of here - He saw  
South Wales - with Hicks - They are finding  
a large series of metamorphosed rocks beneath  
the Potsdam level & they call them Pebedian

Avon and Series —

I have a good nephew a brave Major in the  
Zulu war — <sup>24<sup>th</sup> Reg</sup> He is in command of a foot  
with 250 men — and so escaped the late disaster  
in which <sup>all</sup> ~~most~~ of his own company perished —

We are anxious about him — This is over —  
and is in command of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the 24<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>  
Perhaps you know that the Royal Society has  
reduced the entrance money from £14 —  
to £3 — on purpose to admit certain men  
without inconvenience —

Etheridge's only son a diligent and rather  
-istic paleontologist — has been taken into the  
British Museum at a salary of £250 a  
year — rising each year — Most of the  
Officers of Scientific Society <sup>here</sup> add to their  
income by editing — writing manuals and  
helping weak authors — Tyndal, Duncan

Huxley, Dallas, Rupert Jones &c &c —

Sir J. Hooker has just published his travels in  
Morocco — very readable — very botanical —

His Travels in Colorado & the U.S.A. in  
+ that is — of what remains of it) <sup>quarters</sup> he is  
busy

A son of Godwin Austin - geologist from killed in the war

at - I have seen many of the plates wh  
are very good - Lady Hooker the daughter  
of Rev<sup>d</sup> Symonds F. G. S is a charming  
lady-like person - Mr Symonds writes about  
Malvern and Ireland. I do not doubt but  
he takes good care of the children of his first  
wife - The Royal Society and the Royal  
Institution are just now making much ado  
with Mr Spottiswood - He is to have a marble  
bust &c &c - He is said to be a high mathe  
matician. and general Physicist - What his  
private opinions about heaven are, I know not

The death of Mr<sup>s</sup> Ranyard is honorably  
lamented - Your friend Dr Gladstone is well  
I am rather puzzled by religious persons  
attending & patronising the Roy. Institut. of  
Albemarle St - It is only now and then  
that the lectures are well attended - the rule  
is a discouraging thing & this in a popul<sup>n</sup> of  
3.500000. Professor Shafer is giving an  
admirable set of 10 lectures on <sup>low</sup> marine life  
worms - invertebrates, &c