

Streaton, Ill. Sep. 29 1874.

Mr. John H. Dawson L. L. D.

Dear Sir,

I hope that you will excuse the liberty which I am taking in addressing this letter to you, when you understand all the circumstances.

I am a minister in the Presbyterian Church & pastor of this church. Some time ~~xxxx~~ since, owing to the bold attacks, which some self-styled scientists, <sup>of this community</sup> made upon the Bible, I preached a sermon on the Mosaic account of Creation. It was repeated by request both of Infidels & Christians. In it I took the ground that the 7 days of Creation are not solar days but Creative days, i. e. long periods of time. I showed some of the objections against the Mosaic narrative & some of the harmonies between it & Geology. I based the harmonies essentially ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ on the



The views of Dana as given in his *Manual of Geology*.

Now in our young city there lives a retired physician of middle life possessing a small fortune, who is spending all his time in study. He has been ~~so~~ turning his attention toward Geology for a couple of years & now is ready to overthrow the Bible & all its claims. For instance in a published article last week he asserted "This latest dodge on inspiration" (i.e. the creative day in place of the solar day) worth so for thinking, reasoning men." Possessing some intelligence, having access to all infidel writers on such subjects, and a most dogmatic way of putting his ideas, ~~He~~ he is a difficult writer to meet by one who has only a limited library & has no access to a better one.

Now, when I was in the seminary at Princeton N. J. 3 or 4 yrs. since, I had the pleasure of listening to your lectures on Genesis & Geology (am not certain about the title) but like many



other young men did not realize how  
precious they would be to me in the fu-  
ture & failed to procure a printed copy.

Can you tell me where I can now  
obtain a copy? And can you recom-  
mend any other works which will  
help me in showing that Geological  
science is not opposed to the Bible.

My present intention is not to enter into  
a newspaper controversy, but simply to  
show my people that the Bible is the  
immutable word of God as proven by  
evidence from the bowels of the earth.

Believing that you are anxious to aid  
those who are in search of truth & desiring  
to hear from you at your earliest con-  
venience, I remain

Your brother in Christ

Rev. J. A. Ewalt

Streator

Ill.



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