

T. STERRY HUNT.

W. Hunt

Montreal, Canada,

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Dear Dr. Dawson

I have just been
over Whitney's Auriferous Gravels of
Cal., making notes therefrom. The
book is very meagre & I mean to put
into shape my own much more
extended notes on these gravels as
the South Yuba - made in 1877. To
which I refer in my late note re-
printed from Amer. Jour. Sci.
in the Naturalist. Whitney refers
to the silicified wood as in fibres
like Asbestos. but I do not find
that he speaks of asbestos itself
in the gravels. He however de-
clares that the fibrous structure
has nothing what ever to do with

The organic structure of the wood
but is purely mineral in origin as
is that of other fibrous minerals, e.g.
Chrysotile & asbestos. Moreover
he declares that no Coniferous
plant has been found in these
grounds. - Now you certainly saw
structure on these fibres from the
fossils of the South Yuba, & if
I am not mistaken told me
they were of Coniferous wood.
I must return to this subject & hope
to be able to confer with you on it.
The subject. If you have not
specimens by you I shall be glad
to send you others of the fibres.

Very sincerely
Yours

J. Steyermark

Principal Dawson