

Henry Allen

J^r Wm W^r

July 22nd 1882

My dear Dr. Dawson

Many thanks for your letter of the 18th inst. and the paper containing the Minutes of Proceedings of the Royal Society, which accompanied it. -

With regard to my paper on the glaciation of W^r, and the suggestions therein made as to the movements of the Ice over the Continent, I by no means pretend to anything approaching a demonstration, and shall only be too glad to stand corrected, by the establishment of The Truth. There is one point however of which I am very positive, and that is that the boulders strewn over the country between Lakes Huron and Erie, are to

a very large extent, derived from the
North shore of Lake Huron, and that
the grooves upon polished surfaces of
limstone invariably point S-E. I was
not aware that facts had been ascertained
since my time in Canada, showing that
the great lakes were remains of old
Pliocene valleys, and should like very
much to see the data upon which that
opinion is founded. In so far as Newfoundland
is concerned, the facts I have narrated are
indisputable, however wrong I may be in
my ^{interpretation} ~~translation~~ of them; but so far as
I can judge, it appears as clear to me that
this island has been entirely enveloped in
ice at one time, as it is generally acknowledged
that Scotland has at a certain period under
similar circumstances, and the character of
the boulders distributed over its surface, and
the bearings of the striae, certainly show that
the general flow was towards the N-E. although

often deflected on either hand by local
peculiarities. - In short, whatever I may
have said upon this matter was only intended
as suggestive, and not by any means to
be controversial. - I asked Grant to send
you a copy of the Geographical Map of
H^{is} to present to the Royal Society, and
I shall now also ask him to give you
another copy of the same, and a volume
of my revised reports, to present to His Ex^{ty}
Lord Lorne, if you will kindly favor me
by doing so, as President of the Society. -

Last year I got some good work done in
tracing out the details of our Huronians; -
a map and section of which I have got
Grant the plan in Mr. DeBarre's hands
to be lithographed. - I shall send you copies
of the report when I get it printed, which
I hope will be shortly, although it is tedious
work ^{for} anything in that line ^{done} here. - This
year I have been obliged to employ my whole
staff, (which is very limited) in laying down
accurate Base lines for blocking the country
for settlement; and as I am now much disabled

and incapable of bearing great fatigue, I
fear our Geological progress will be very small.

I greatly regret that I shall not be able
to visit Montreal next month, while the
Autⁿ Assⁿ is there; which moreover I had the
double inducement to do, so as to meet some
quartz, many of my old friends.

G. I. Hinde's pamphlet was published at
Toronto, and is entitled - "The Glacial and
Interglacial Strata of Scarborough Heights &c."

With many kind regards, I am
always, my dear Dr. Dawson

Yours very truly

Wm. Murray