

Oliver  
at Glasgow

New Glasgow Jan<sup>y</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 1883

Dr J W Dawson

Dear Sir

Presuming on our acquaintance  
in the past when we were both young  
men I remembered when you  
were quite a young man About  
the time your late father published  
the "Bee" to which I frequently  
contributed when I lived in New  
Annan And was styled by that  
Paper "Our Correspondent" And when  
you were Superintendent of Education  
you paid me a visit in New Annan  
and I was very happy in your  
company I have not seen or  
spoken to you for many years once  
indeed I passed you on the road  
between N. Glasgow and Pine Tree  
but I did not know you at the  
time And had no further opportunity  
of seeing you

But though our acquaintance  
and intercourse has been interrupted  
I am proud of world wide fame  
you have won as a man of  
science I have always read  
with the greatest pleasure your  
works on Geology. Though I am  
sorry to say I am only possessor of  
some of your earlier works

As far as my memory serves me  
some where in your Geological  
works you give it as your opinion  
that the level ground South of the  
Conglomerate ridge forming Frasers  
Mountain crossing the East River  
forming the high land between the  
East and Middle Rivers called Mount.  
William continuing on to the west  
in Green Hill to the South in  
prehistoric time there was a  
Lagoon which was filled up  
This is the idea I have borne  
in my mind in which are our

Fields I may not correctly give  
you view but I cannot refresh my  
by reference

There is at present among a number  
a desire to get water into the Town  
of New Glasgow And different plans  
are spoken of as bringing <sup>it</sup> from the  
River above above Mines and raising  
it by Steam power And <sup>by</sup> Gravitation  
from McLenans Brook &c.

The plan is the encouragement of  
of Manufactories. By digging wells  
about 14 feet water can be got almost  
any <sup>where</sup> within the town of fair quality  
But at the depth of 28 feet great  
abundance of well tasted and good  
water may be reached by digging  
and it not near so hard as that  
got by digging 14 feet

Now what I want to get out is this  
I think if artesian wells were ~~made~~  
Lunk above the conglomerate ridge <sup>South</sup>  
water might rise to great height

Sufficient for the Supply of the  
Town unless it might hapen  
to be mixed with Oil

At our Town meeting I gave a Speech  
Opening expensive water works  
owing to the smallness of our population  
between 3 and 4000 and advocate d  
the sinking of Artisan Wells

Basing my remarks upon your  
views of the valley South of the hills  
having been a lagoon And coal  
being now found in large quantities  
probably Oil and water might  
both be had

I'm thinking over the matter &  
I resolved to write to you and  
ask your Opinion If water  
would be likely to rise high by  
Sinking Artisan wells or if there  
is a probability of Oil being found

Yours with high respect

John Oliver

Address John Oliver Esq New Glasgow N.S