

(Dinner)  
March 13. 1887

23 Denning Road,  
Hampstead, N.W.

Dear Sir William Dawson

I have received your  
letters of Feb 17 and 26 with  
the enclosures -

As regards the Stile borings  
I do not feel myself compe-  
tent, for want of local  
knowledge, to offer an opinion  
as to the age of the beds. All  
I can say is that the samples  
from the various depths, so far  
as I have at present seen of  
them, appear to differ but  
little in character, except

if my memory serve me rightly,  
rounded sand-pans become  
scarcer in the lower part. But  
of the last series I have had  
at present, only a hasty glance.  
My paper on Brittany is to be  
read next week. They had  
a good many papers & had  
at the f.s. and I told Judd I  
was in no hurry - I hope it  
will be of some interest. In  
my mind the following points  
come out very clearly in Brittany

(1) that there is a brachian rock  
ly that - it has been modified in  
Palaeocene times, but not at the land  
this is ca. see that it was



completely <sup>metamorphosed</sup> modified before this  
modification - (3) that though the  
Paleozoic has been hemmed & squeezed  
and to some places heated up by  
intrusives, they are not a bit like  
Archaea - I must look up  
your account of the New Brunswick  
works.

I have read your letter with  
much interest. It appears to me  
that the limited federations  
which you propose are far more  
likely to be useful than the  
suggested "International approach"  
which would I think break down  
by its own weight - It would be  
better also for purposes of nomenclature  
that the Geological Congress - than  
the difficulties of language and

rationality come in - It will be impossible  
to accept several of its decisions  
and its chief good will be the obtaining  
of a good geological map of Europe -  
Now if we could have such a federation  
as you propose we might get a standard  
nomenclature, what would save much  
time and trouble, for, even if one  
could not accept it, one could use  
its name in brackets - Suppose for  
instance it agreed to use the  
Term Ordovician for the Arenig -  
Llandovery beds - A Survey man  
might insist on calling these his  
Silurian but if he would put  
the standard term in a bracket after  
his own he should always know  
exactly what he meant - now he may  
mean Loughry - Lland or that just  
named -

Many thanks for the paper shall

around safe - You see I have had  
a very ~~of~~ gay time - We have had -  
cold, but not very severe winter.  
It is still cold though the sun is  
gaining power - for there is a sharp  
frost at night -

I am hoping to go to the Alps this  
summer in order to make a couple  
more sections across the chain

I think of making one across  
the French Alps to Turin - the  
other to the east of the St  
Gotthard, perhaps across the  
Tyrol - This will enable me  
to compare the results with  
those obtained in my other  
sections - If I find there is  
a similar mineral succession



There must be something in it -  
I believe that the rising school  
of 'smashers' are riding their  
hobby far too hard -

My sister is well and desires  
her kind regards to Lady and  
Miss Dawson and yourself  
to which I very heartily

join

Believe me

Sincerely yours

J. G. Bonney