

University
Aberdeen

March 3rd/88

Dear Mr William Dawson,

I have to return
to you my most hearty thanks for
your kindness in sending me
a copy of your "Geological History
of Plants". I need not say, I
shall read it with the greatest
interest — particularly the part
of it dealing with the older
Palaeozoic plants, or supposed
plants. I have also to thank you

Nichols
Club/88

very much for your paper on New
facts about Sojvön. I have been
working further at Sojvön lately
& feel bound to say that the more
I go into it the more clearly do
I feel that the petrologists have
not yet met the real difficulties
of the case. Möbius, certainly,
has not proved his view. I can
not at present see how the
mineralogists are to dispose of
the "canal-system" or their views,
& I am even coming round to
the view that the "proper wall"
is really part of the calcite
layers. By careful partial etching

of their microscopic sections
along particular lines, I have
satisfied myself that the so-
called "paper wall" is in general
freely soluble in dilute acids,
& that King & Rowney's views
as to its being composed of fibrous
chrysothile are certainly not
well founded. At the same
time, you are perfectly right as to
the very general presence of ~~chrysothile~~
chrysothile veins in addition -

I hope you are well, & that we
may have a chance of meeting at
the International Congress in
September. With kind regards
yours very sincerely
H. Alleyne Nicholson