

Robt. Ford

Lanvone Ms. Oct. 8. 90

Dr. Dawson -

Dear Sir -

I have just been reading in Christian Literature your admirable reply to Dr. Huxley + feel like expressing my personal satisfaction. I read Huxley's paper + was for the time rather "non-plussed"; although I could not exactly see the end of the Ark going out to sea even on the inundation theory. But it seems to me that the great fault with Huxley and those of his class is that they claim too much infallibility for the con-

clusions of science, Are there
any two scientific writers
who agree together for two
consecutive pages of geology?
If science proceeds in such
a secure & infallible method
why are scientific authorities
so short lived? Your article
is of unusual cogency, for
it not only meets the object-
ions of the "pseudognostic" but
handles Scripture with the
intelligence of a believer, and
so far as I have observed
most of the defenders of
religion from Huxley, In-
gersoll &c. show so little knowl-
edge of the Bible that their
defence is more harmful to
the cause of the truth than
the attacks they seek to
repel.

I thought while reading

Your article that I should like to call your attention to the interpretation of the evil spirits entering the swine ^{story of the} which is given by Rev W. A. Clarke of your city in the Commentary on the Gospel of Mark which he published a few years ago. He thinks that the spirits failed to effect possession of the swine and the panic among them was a result of the approach of an unwonted disturbing power to the natures of the animals which excited them and caused them to rush to their own destruction. I think his whole explanation is as sensible as it is original.

I determined to possess myself of your "Modern Science

in Bible Lands" as soon as I
am able. I have seen it criti-
cised as not reliable in exe-
gesis but from your interpreta-
tion of Scripture in this reply
to Hewley I infer that
your interpretation of Scrip-
ture is as likely to be as
correct as the theologians'
at least.

I am very appreciatively
Yrs. F. S. Pickford
Pastor Bapt Ch.
Lamoine, Maine