

Quote the mention
of the Hastern Board in
your Leit - which is
of course quite satisfactory

Yours
W.D.

Dear Father,

I have lately been
dipping into Bancroft's
5th Volume, & find that he
gives a very good résumé
of facts known as to directions
of colonization of America,
& pre-Columbian discovery.
He is not at all inclined
to admit the connection between
the Mexican & traditions of
floods &c. & those mentioned in

J. M. Dawson

Victoria B.C.

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the Bible, & it is a great pity
 that the stupid Spanish priests
 fore-distant so many of the
 stories that it is impossible to
 tell exactly what is original &
 what is not. Yet there seems to
 be enough similarity to prove
 a common origin, or at least
 communication of ideas from
 a similar source. One of the
 most curious, which he does not
 mention, though in reading a
 former volume it struck me, is
 the number of Central American
 nations who attribute the ^{material} origin of

Quote the mention

man to the earth or dust. This is an idea which ^{it} would hardly seem ~~to~~ possible to account for except on the hypothesis of an original tradition, or as a deduction from facts too philosophical for the Indians themselves to make. See Bancroft - states that there are forty one instances of Japanese junk's drifting on the west-coast of America between 1782, & 1850; only twelve of which were deserted. Also that several Japanese words occur in the Chinese language, all of which would seem to show that Behring's Straits aside, there can be no particular ~~&~~ mystery as to the way in which this part of America may have been peopled. All this you probably know before, but having nothing else to write about, I thought better to make a letter out of something.

I had a letter from William the other day dated Feb. 4th. The North Pacific is just in, & I hope on my way down to the Post Office to find some of your letters.

With love to all
 Your affectionate son George