

From Bromley Kent

Dec. 24th

My dear Gray

I have been for 10 weeks at Water Cure & on my return a fortnight ago thought I should find a copy of your memoir, & heartily so I thank you for it. I have not read it, & shall not be able to do so, for I am much overworked & by the time I am ~~so~~ ^{get} nearly in bed as ever. With respect to the discussion on climate, I beg you to believe that I never put myself in a position of competition with Dana, but share his thoughts on the subject, and cannot avoid forming some opinion. What I write to Hooker I forget, after reading only a few sheets of your memoir, which I saw would be full of interest to me. Hooker asked me to write to you, but as I told him, I did not presume to express an opinion, ^{to you} without careful deliberation several years ago. What he wrote I know not. I had previously seen (of whom I forget) some speculation on warmness period in U. States subsequent to glacial period; & I had consulted Beke who seemed much to

money with be sent to Book for Stearns Dec. 3 & has his
 sent off clean sheets of the Report, as much as is set printed.

that the climate at the period of its
embedding was ^{very} warm, as seen evidenced
by the wavy ^{concentric} p-ly to nature of the
deposits, ^{with angular fragments} - the nature of the shells, & coexistence
of the Murch. etc. I had formerly gathered
from Gode that the relative position
of Megalotermium & Mylodon with respect
to the glacial deposits, had not been
well made out; but perhaps it has
been so recently. - Such are my
views for what is set admitting the
warmer period subsequent to glacial
epoch; but I dare say I may be
quite wrong, & shall not be at
all sorry to be proved so. -
I shall ^{of course} read your Essay with
care, for I have seen no set of
fragments & very like some parts, which
I could not clearly understand, with the

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clear enough. - but I am very sorry
the Harker said a word about by
specimens, -
I have been much interested of late
that you say in early part of
letter about "Creation" & the philosophy of the
subject. As you truly remark, if one
thinks a certain amount of Creation then
is no strong reason & why not admit
they act. - But I look on it such
that the theory of Natural selection explains
many classes of facts, which, as far as
we can see, repeated acts of Creation
do not explain. On this latter view
we can only say "so it is" & not at
all "why it is so" - May I not
decide, either way, the you have read Ch. XIII &

the Recapitulation^{pk} which with, I think,
 and you in belonging facts. — I value
 your opinion much highly; & I hope
 you will not think me presumptuous
 in saying how sincere I have admired
 your several letters to me & to Mr. to
 Hooker that I have occasionally
 read. I am rejoiced to say the
 fact is a complete consent; & is logic
 & candid enough to be in writing a
 future change of opinion. — Huxley, a
 first-rate zoologist, & Carpenter first-rate
 physiologist are correct; as is H.C. Watson.
 So that I am again then contented. I
 am sure to be in error in many parts;
 but my general view, I conclude, must have
 some truth in it. — There are many bitter opponents,
 I seek to copy of by Book though many. I had written at
 the Faberian doctrine of alpine plants 4 years before Forbes
 published, as Hooker knew, but I do not ~~suppose~~ believe the Forbes
 had ever heard of it: so he is original, as you will see in my
 Book, I do not allude to my first work in this. I am very
 sincerely
 C. Darwin



Darwin, Charles. 1859. "Darwin, Charles Dec. 24, 1859." *Charles Darwin letters to Asa Gray*

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