tions, and to that end established himself at Little Metis. In his little cottage of Birkenshaw, "embowered in trees and overlooking the St. Lawrence estuary," he spent many happy and useful seasons until the end of his life. From that place he went afield, and examined the coast deposits of New England and the formation of the White Mountains. He dredged the lower St. Lawrence, and was able to recognize in the cold Canadian waters nearly every species found in the Pleistocene days. The results of those labours were embodied in "The Ice Age of Canada," which was published in 1894. Two summers were spent in the Gaspé district, and the enquiry was extended to the Chaleur Bay, to the St. John River, and to an examination of fossil remains which had been collected in Ohio and New York. The result was to double the known flora of that early period, and to show that the Devonian age admitted of subdivision into three distinct periods. His guiding principle was to assign dates to the several floras and subfloras, and to make fossil plants the criteria of geological age. This entailed the accumulation of an enormous mass of material, which yet remains as a monument of his industry. More recent researches have shown that the mass of this flora is referable to the carboniferous system; and he appears to have been led into error by trusting too implicitly to the records which were then extant.

Travels still further afield were undertaken. In 1865 he visited Europe again. He remained some time in Paris, and spent a day at Amiens, "to see that ancient city and the gravels of the Somme." This was at the time when certain discoveries had been made of "prehistoric" human remains, which some persons thought gave information upon the genesis and development of the race in addition to that which had been supplied by the Hebrew chroniclers. Sir William Dawson, however, attached no great importance to these discoveries. The journey was continued over the Jura to Mont Blanc and its surrounding peaks, and as a result of his examination he "became a confirmed sceptic as to the erosive action of glaciers." Upon his return to England he was present at the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, at Birmingham, and twenty years later he occupied the President's chair in the same city. At this latter meeting a curious event occurred. In his Presidential address Sir William referred to the probability of an earthquake occurring on the Atlantic coast, on account of the accumulation of sediment from the American rivers. That very night the city of Charleston was shaken to the ground, and for some unexplained reason Sir William was blamed for the occurrence.

Another visit to Europe was made in 1870, when he became acquainted with the work of Wyville Thomson upon deep-sea sponges,