

numerous occasions he has read papers of incalculable value before that learned assembly. Through his instrumentality the British Association met in Montreal in the year 1884, and it was at the opening session in Queen's Hall that the Marquis of Lansdowne announced the honor of knighthood. Two years later Sir William was president of the British Association. He had already acted as president of the American Association in 1883. These facts indicate the degree of respect in which he is held by the scientists of the neighboring Republic and of Great Britain.

When the theory of the evolution of species was first placed before the public, Sir William Dawson hastened to oppose it. From his youth he has been strictly orthodox and a firm believer in the book of Genesis. In addition to a large number of fragmentary writings which he has published against that theory, he has written several works which are by far the most reliable of his books. I will name them in order of their publication. *ARCHAIA* was published in 1860; the *STORY OF THE EARTH AND MAN*, in 1873; *THE ORIGIN OF THE WORLD*, in 1877, and his *FOSSIL MEN AND THEIR MODERN REPRESENTATIVES*, in 1880. In all of these works Sir William seeks to disprove the theory of evolution with geological and biological facts and deductions therefrom; and further to support the hypothesis of the creation of species and of the world as taught in the Hebrew Scriptures.

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Perhaps Sir William has made for himself almost as lasting a name as an educationist as he has as a scientist. His writings on education are quite extensive, and in many respects he is an educational reformer. When he filled the office of superintendent of education for Nova Scotia, he published a number of tracts of great service to the teaching profession. When President of McGill, in addition to a large number of pamphlets on education and several valuable text books on geology and zoology which he made public, his lecture on the questions of examinations for the learned professions has fixed his place in the history of education in Canada. He has always been very much interested in elementary education and in all the schools and colleges of Canada. Sir William is a believer in the higher education of women. Although McGill was not the first to throw open its doors to the ladies, it followed the example of the other universities after due consideration.

Sir William has considerable reputation as a teacher. He is a member of the Montreal Natural History Society.