

7028/68/21

W.C.'s preliminary drafts to Howard Damon
& complete opening paper of Chen in
Botany. Received by W.C.

CUS417/68.21

Dr Dawson

Dear Sir

20th Nov

Yours of the 11th was duly

received and should have had earlier atten-
 tion, but I have been somewhat undecided about
 answer to returns. And before saying anything
 further let me thank you & the Med. Faculty of McGill
 College, most sincerely ^{for the compliment they have paid me in} ~~not only~~ ^{and the opportunity which adds} ~~for their kindness~~ but
 also for the complement they have paid me in
 asking me to take the Lectureship in Botany
 for several years. I feel compelled to refuse ^{your} this
 kind offer, ~~in the first place~~ ^{in the first place} my knowledge of the subject
 is at present so extremely limited - limited in
 fact, with the exception, perhaps of a little Microscopic
 Botany to what I remember of a course in my second
 year ^{ago} ~~ago~~ by I do not feel capable, in the year or three
 months ^{at the most} ~~at the most~~ ^{which I have} ~~which I have~~ ^{at my disposal} ~~at my disposal~~ ^{to discharge the duty of the post} ~~to discharge the duty of the post~~
 shall spend over here of ~~working up the subject~~ ^{working up the subject}
 rather with credit to the University or myself
 I have my general Medical & Surgical work to attend
 to & I hardly think it would be justice ~~with~~

could be done to both. ^{But} again supposing I did
accept it and ^{prepared} devoted myself by study, work
over here. I would still on my return be lament-
ably ignorant of the Canadian Flora - a pretty
^{condition} position for a born Canadian holding a chair of
Botany in one of the chief universities. be in
Much as I should like ^{to} I feel that I could not ^{con-}scien-
tiously accept ^{the post.} such a position

Dr Campbell

Dear Sir

I have written to Dr Dawson
in reply to the ^{kind made me} offer of the Lectureship in Botany
(which Dr Will Coll was kind enough to make me)

I am sorry that I cannot see my way to accepting
it, notwithstanding the ^{a^d naturally inclines} strong temptation to take

such a position. I am afraid some one has been mis-
representing my Botanical ~~requirements~~ ^{at present}

I know next to nothing of the subject & it would be unfair
to ^{to} myself & the college if I on the strength of a year & a
half study undertook

My time as it is, is pretty well occupied with general subjects
and

I could not in a year & a half, in conjunction with my general
medical studies, prepare myself sufficiently. At present

I know ~~also~~ next to nothing of the subject & its study
here would entail more ^{labor} field work ^{in the room of} field work
than I could possibly get through.

The offer was a much better one than I could have expected
and I feel that

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Mr Dan Brown

I have written to Dr Dawson regarding the kind offer made me of the lectureship in Botany. I am afraid you will not be pleased at it, but I really can not do otherwise. If I knew anything of Botany at present; if I had nothing else to do for two or three years it might be thought of; but as matters stand now I would only make a fool of myself in accepting such a position. I would feel far too keenly the anomalous situation of holding a chair in Botany & knowing absolutely nothing of the flora of my native land. I am so afraid the offer was made more from personal feelings than any fitness for the post. I can assure ^{you} I appreciate highly the compliment paid me and consider that we will have more than fulfilled any obligation she may have ^{considered} herself under to me. I hope nothing was said about it for I should not like it to come to the ears of any other people, they would be vexed ^{at me} ~~at~~, not knowing the ~~me~~ ^{me} out of the case. I continue my work at U. C. Laboratory & am satisfied so far with my progress.