

Antigenish 5th May 1864

Dear Sir

In profit of the occasion of sending
you the enclosed, to give you some information
respecting our boring for brine.

Since I had the pleasure of seeing you here
we expended a considerable sum in putting up
Machinery, in order to facilitate boring by steam.

We have bored up to this day to the depth of 400 feet
in the same sort of salt bearing strata that you saw
passing through a few boulders, but not one solid
bed of Gypsum until a few days ago when after two
feet of limestone (grey) we came into a bed of Gypsum,
which I think we are today passing through.

For the last respect the loam is clay iron, strongly
impregnated with salt: but I am surprised to have
reached repeated depth without any change.

My impression is that by persevering we must
come to strong brine: I should like to know what you
think of it. One thing certain, having once found a
run of brine we must find it again! In England
they bored several times outside the run & did not find
it: but afterwards found it again.

In the whole depth we did not try, with any success,
finding signs of argoniac matter, or fossils. Siliceous
Gypsum almost daily presents.

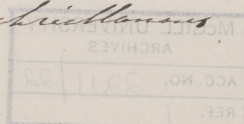
There are parties in Halifax, intriguing against
us: one party wishes to buy the worn sheep; another
Importers of Salt have sold shares cheap, & done every
thing in their power to crush us; others who yet
support us begin to be impatient at the delay in
finding strong mine, so that my petition has become
every anxious, and painful one. For I have
during 4 years, made great sacrifices, and failure
now would be a serious thing for me.

In a few weeks we have our annual meeting if
you have good opinion of our prospects in finding trace
you will greatly oblige me by writing me such a
letter as I may show at our meeting, & it will be in
answer to my request for your opinion: any
other remarks being in separate letters.

I have just proposed to our Directors, to apply through
committee, Sept 1844 (who are shareholders) for committee
in the N. of assembly to enquire into the state & prospects
of our works, in order to counteract such difficulties

Conduct
Principal Engineer

Yours truly
Josiah Deacon.



Dear
Gene Reg

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
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