

Quebec 4 Decembre 1869
Monday 13th Decembre 1869.

My Dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your letter of 9th Oct. I had some hope that I might have got the situation vacated by Mr. Slack, and small as the salary attached to it was, as I wrote you, under present circumstances it would have been of importance to me. However it is just now, and it is useless to dwell upon it, and I will content myself with the hope that I may have "better luck next time".

If nothing else should turn up, it may be perhaps possible for me to get something to do with the preparing the Census which I understand will be soon commenced under Mr. Dunkin's Department, but I have been so long out of practice, that I fear any influence that I may be able to bring to bear may not amount to much.

I am glad to learn that you have had such good accounts of and from your Grand - not the least satisfactory are in connexion with his health which I felt confident would be benefited by change of air & scene - but he must not apply himself to study too closely.

I regret what you say in reference to yourself and your work, but when I recollect that you have in no way spared yourself since you assumed the Principalship of "W. G. B." I am not surprised to learn that you should now see the propriety of economising your strength & energies for scientific matters. However much your friends may regret your withdrawal

from the active position you have hitherto held in connection
with General Education. I think all will readily admit
that you are fully entitled to the exemption you propose.
It has hitherto really been a hard and thankless
pull up hill, and I fear from what I hear, that the
future is not likely to be more encouraging
as to Protestant Education. However, those who are
aware of the unaccountable apathy with which
the Protestant Community has been, and is at
present possessed, are not surprised. My only hope
is that "when things come to the worst they will mend".

We had heard from Miss McIntosh
of Anna's intended visit to Quebec and hope she
will be able to accomplish it. Mary has just
handed me a letter to inclose to her.

And now I am going to ask
the favor of your attending to a little matter of
business in reference to the inclosed blank form;
By it you will see that I have already made
arrangements with Messrs. Rose & Co of Ottawa
for the publication of the "Life of the Duke of Quebec"
which they think they will be able to commence
early in July. I have opened a subscription
here with satisfactory results, and I have been
recommended by my friend Dr. Miles, to enlist
in Montreal a Mr. Cross of St. Antoine Street who
has been very successful in canvassing for his
Histories of Canada about to be published
by Messrs. Dawson of Montreal. I will be much
obliged if you will take the trouble to see Mr. Cross,
and ascertain if they will take the matter in hand.

I suppose you are aware
that our Literary & Historical Society invited
Dr. Baker Edwards to give a lecture "On coal
and

And its usefulness "and that he delivered
a very successful one. Before his arrival here
I called on Dr. Cook, and interested him in the
matter on the part of McGill College, and we
subsequently had an interview with Dr. Edwards, the
result of which is that Dr. Cook is endeavoring
to make arrangements for engaging him to
deliver two six week courses to the students
of "McGill". I hope he may succeed, for I should
be delighted if Quebec could do anything for the
support and encouragement of so accomplished
a chemist.

With kind regards to Mr. Dawson
and the children

I remain very faithfully
Yours
N. J. Anderson

Dr. Dawson
McGill College



