

McGill College.  
Montreal.

Samuel C. Dunkin

May 3, 1871

My dear Sir,

As President of  
the Natural History Society  
of Montreal, I desire to  
prefer a report of some  
importance to the progress  
of Natural Science.

The Society has  
for several years, at its  
own cost and that of  
individual members,  
promoted researches by  
studying in the field  
and time to time  
and has published  
many interesting papers  
on the results; but it

has not had the  
means & entered these  
investigations to those  
deeper parts of the  
subject which very  
interesting results might  
be anticipated.

The Society would  
furnish a competent  
watercraft provided  
with the necessary  
sails and deck gear,  
if the Government would  
furnish a pilot &  
~~allow the use of~~  
one of ~~the~~ its Schooners  
or Steamers for any

with the help of gun <sup>apparently as</sup> ~~after~~  
and I hope  
The vessel will be  
a fortnight in the month  
of July or August

The particular points  
which we desire ac-  
cept are, (1) Between  
Arctic and Gulf,  
(2) Between the East  
end of Arctica and  
the Maystake Islands,  
(3) The North Channel  
from Arctica to Bellin's,  
If any one of  
these points could be  
explored in the coming  
summer, we would

be well satisfied. My  
results showed of a  
practically useful char-  
acter we should be  
most happy to com-  
municate to the govern-  
ment, and would  
publish the succinct  
results in full in the  
"Canadian Naturalist"

I may add that,  
as is well known to  
you, ~~that~~ the governments  
both of Great Britain  
and the United States

have expended large  
sums in researches  
of this kind, with  
very interesting results,  
and further that  
the British Admiralty  
has provided apparatus  
for registering temperatures  
of the deeper parts of  
the sea, for obtaining  
specimens of water from  
great depths, and  
for measuring the force  
of the deeper currents.  
Sets of this apparatus

Copy of the  
of the  
could no doubt be  
obtained on application  
of the British Government;  
and if so obtained  
the National History Society  
would be glad to  
include such observations  
as there in the work  
of its agent.

Yours  
J. D. Dawson

As the annual  
meeting of the Society  
will be held in May  
18th a reply before that  
time would be very acceptable  
J. D.