

Pictou 1<sup>st</sup> Decr 1873

Principal Dawson

Macgill College. Montreal

My Dear Sir

Your favors of 18<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>

ult<sup>o</sup> duly rec<sup>d</sup> and I would have replied  
sooner had Mr. Holmes been at home

He returned on Saturday and I have  
since had some conversation with him  
on the subject of the proposed memorial  
to the Govt for aid in purchasing a  
diamond drill to test the area at  
Sutherland's Point. He is going to  
Halifax soon and will see Mr. Mc-  
Donald the Com<sup>r</sup> of mines with whom  
he is on friendly terms and will  
do all he can to aid the matter.

He feels that his representations would  
perhaps be more favorably received how-  
ever if he had not an interest in the  
adjoining rights of Search and he  
feels that this circumstance may  
be against him. He intends to  
advocate the propriety of the Govt  
owning a diamond drill, <sup>the use of which</sup> to be

granted (under such regulations as  
may be considered proper) to parties  
engaged in searching for minerals  
Mr Holmes thinks that if you  
would drop a line to J. W. Carmichael  
he might bring his influence to bear  
on the Government in your favor.

We will mention the matter to Fraser.

We do not know what a Diamond  
Drill would cost but if the price  
is not Extravagant there would be  
an oppy after you had used it, by  
hiring it out to others, for reimbursing  
the owners for its cost.

We are not sanguine of success in  
<sup>your</sup> getting a Grant from the Government  
altho the importance of the operations  
contemplated cannot be overestimated  
in the proving of an area where there  
is a possibility of making such an  
Extensive and Valuable discovery of  
Coal.

I am sorry the samples  
about 40 to 46 are wanting - all were  
sent from here and Bills of Lading  
of each package were forwarded to you

On Reference to my letters of 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct & 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov you  
will observe the package containing these sandaloes was  
forwarded by Stearns' "Radic" and I having thereof, can  
-closed to you. Please let me know if they turn up all  
right. I have a complete copy of Logan's journal here  
if you need to refer to it. I enclose copies of two letters  
addressed to Mr Prentice by last mail. My father says  
Mr P. may get his back up at getting <sup>the</sup> notice he has seen  
him but thinks it was only prudent under the cir-  
-cumstances. I cannot allow the payment to lie  
over as heretofore it was best to let Mr Prentice know  
that.

Yours truly

Thomas P. Finison

Smith  
I will consult Mr. Finison about another area for Mr. P. on  
No 49 if there is any other letters made of returned land.

H. P. Russell  
D. L. Williams  
Dec 1/73

