

Victoria 20th July 1874.

R Dawson
 My Dear Sir

I duly rec^d. your letter dated Kamouraska 13 Inst. McDonalds. Rigby telegraphed me of the rec^t. of the papers from Montreal & I leave for Halifax this morning to endeavor to complete arrangements. We must be relieved from all responsibility about keeping the Rights alive and get the payment secured with interest beyond a peradventure. We have every confidence in the parties and will consent to 12 mo^s delay in payment but the papers must be made satisfactory.

You are aware the Rights extend over a large surface that they require immediate and extensive examinations so as to be fully prepared to make the best selections.

Messrs J. D. Crawford & Co telegraphed us to make enquiry for Mr Gilpin who was engaged last season in successfully tracing the Limonite. He has written

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July 17th

tous he is open to an Engagement
 and as the season is now far advanced
 I recommend that he and Donald Fraser
 should be employed at once to trace
 out the ores thus satisfy the Govt. that
 the parties are in earnest and secure
 the best localities. I think this very
 important in every respect. You
 could direct them the best way to
 commence operations. We will secure
 the Right to work the Specular at Mc-
 Donald Weavers with Expires 20th Augt.
 by an extension of another year but
 the company must prepare themselves
 to keep the areas alive thereafter. Of
 course we will draw for the \$25 nec-
 essary to pay for the above extension.

Tomorrow the representative
 of the Halifax Coy advised me some time
 ago about purchasing the property. I
 told him in confidence that I ex-
 pected, and would prefer for Mr. Prentice's
 sake, who had spent so much time &
 money in the business, that he would
 be able to get matters arranged to his
 satisfaction but that should he fail

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in doing so I would then be open to negotiate with him
I have had no communication with him since but he has
written me a letter under date 17th Inst. which I now enclose
close a copy of in perfect confidence to be used only by you
should I get his liberty while in Halifax. of which
I will telegraph you.

I beg to propose to our friends in Montreal
that they should amalgamate their interest with the
Halifax Company and form one great Coy for the
purpose of working the Iron together which would be
much more likely to prove profitable than to establish
two rival Companies to be in one another's way. I
presume the Rights secured by Hudson and others are
in their interest and you are aware Parkinson has
covered over all our areas with Rights of search which
may lead to conflicts in the future as it is not likely
that the Govt would be satisfied to give such a large
extent of Territory to one Company while others are
offering to work. Perhaps you are aware that Mr. Cozon
- a very eminent iron man - of great wealth - from
England - was here last season examining the property
in the interest of the Halifax Coy. as I believe was fully
impressed with its value as immediately after his visit
Mr. Parkinson covered all the areas over by Rights of search
I feel assured that an amalgamation of interests is in
every way the proper course I wish you to name the subject
to the Montreal Coy. I will likely speak of it to Mr. Morrow
while in Halifax I may telegraph you from there but will
of course be non-committal unless you should get your friends
to telegraph me there that they would approve of opening
negotiations or at all events a correspondence with Mr. Morrow
the Agent of the Coy. on the subject

Of course I have no desire to interfere in the matter in any way further than to recommend the amalgamation as the surest way to success.

If the Company so desire, my sons (Prinns & Co.) would have no objection to attend to the Company's interests now, and in the future, as their agents, at the Town of Pictou.

Of course the management at the mines would require to be in other hands. I write in great haste as the train for Halifax is about to leave.

As to your coming to Pictou this summer I think it is perhaps not necessary unless the new Co. should think it important to require your services in setting Kilpin and Fraser, or others judiciously to work as you have already more knowledge of the property than anyone else. Yours truly -

James Prinns

Pennsylvania

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