

Pictou 29<sup>th</sup> July 1874

My dear Sir

~~My father~~ Benj in

Halifax for the purpose of attending  
to the papers to be prepared by Mr. Don-  
ald Rigg, asked Mr. Morrow's per-  
mission to propose an amalgama-  
tion of the Halifax and Montreal  
Companies. He replied it would be  
better to leave it until Mr. Crawford's  
arrival when he would likely see  
him himself but he apprehended  
the Montreal people would want  
too large a price. I immediately  
telegraphed you to keep my previous  
letter to you on this subject strictly  
private. Mr. M. D. & R. prepared the  
papers, which were rather voluminous.  
I executed a release of the Mortgage  
to remain in their hands until  
a Bond, which they had drawn  
out, to be signed by the five parties

at Montreal engaging to pay in one year from 21<sup>st</sup> July the Principal of \$40,000. with interest at 6% from 21<sup>st</sup> May 1870. should be received by them duly executed, when they were to send me the Bond, and give up to the proper parties the Release.

I saw the Agreement between them Prentice by which the property was placed in the hands of Crawford Hamiltow for sale with a condition that it could not be withdrawn from them before 3 years provided they could not sell it sooner and the price stipulated was \$250,000

I trust they may be able to sell or arrange for a Company soon to go to work - how they could expect to hold on to it for 3 years I cannot imagine. without organizing and working, especially as the Halifax Company are behind them on the

Areas and will likely insist on their legal rights to supersede them on some of the Areas should an opp'ny occur.

Messrs Crauford & Prentice were here yesterday ~~and~~ accompanied by Kilpin & Donald Fraser. Mr. C. was very anxious to get Primrose Bros to manage matters for the Montreal Coy and they at last consented to act as their Agents entirely irrespective of any connection with the original proprietors of the property and with the understanding that the Montreal people would pay them a fair remuneration for their services.

Of course we would have been greatly pleased to have had an opp'ny of consulting you here as to the best way of managing matters but unless agreeable to yourself to come and they agree to pay you well for it we do not know of anything outside at present that would remunerate you otherwise.

I have just heard that Fraser Downie would agree with Mr. Ross's Estate to throw their Mining Rights in the Copper territory at Polson's Lake into one. Each paying half of expenses and dividing half the proceeds to each should it turn out a property that would sell in the market. I heard last year that Downie had covered the vicinity in the best direction with Rights extending over five years and suppose it will be for Smith & McKay to decide about accepting. Downie has engaged Webster to go down and prospect his Rights commencing about 1<sup>st</sup> September. will likely write you again on this subject.

I have touched some matters in this letter that had better be kept private regarding Monro especially.

- Yours Truly -

J. Primrose

They have had many difficulties  
to contend with at the boring at  
E. River. some peculiar to the dia-  
mond Drill & others from the nature  
of material through which the hole  
is being drilled. Progress has con-  
-sequently been slow the depth at  
present is about 587 feet. the  
water coming up the hole has be-  
-come very salt so much so that  
it cannot be used in the Boilers.  
The Core has been preserved from  
500 feet downwards except where  
the material has been too soft  
& in such case they have endeavored  
to preserve the sediment from the  
water coming up the hole. I will  
send you the Core if you wish -  
it is chiefly sandstone & hard clay -  
the material they are now in is  
peculiarly soft and loose. so much

so that if the pump were not kept going constantly, night and day the hole would fill up (as it has done twice when the pump was stopped) to the height of 25 feet from the bottom.

I have not been receiving a regular report from them - they have been so often interrupted with the obstacles referred to but they hope to get through the soft material soon & to make reasonably smooth progress thereafter of which I will advise you. Please advise me if you wish the Core forwarded.

Yours Truly  
 H. Pinrose

Dr. Dawson.

29 July '74

My father mentioned the subject of the annual gamation of the Iron Coys to Mr Budden who seemed to think it would not be entertained at all & said he was acquainted with all that has been done at Montreal  
 H.P.