

both to do.

I think our best plan is to sell out for cash, and I for me will not be very exacting as to amount. If Sir Hugh should secure the share of the Jacques Cartier Bank you may find him an Iron master in more ways than one.

I wish Armstrong could have given longer notice, but in view of a certain lack of confidence in his abilities in some directions and of the secondary place which he gave to his duties in Montreal, I do not regret the circumstance. I should like to go down to Metis and I will try to do so. If my bookkeeper come back in time I purpose going to Cacouna on Saturday. kindest regards to W^m & Dawson's family
S^r Dawson Metis Yours very truly P. Redpath

Redpath

Montreal July 27, 1876

My dear Dr Dawson,

Your note of 20th instant has been sent to me from Cacouna.

Mr George Hamilton showed me yesterday the correspondence with Sir Hugh Allan on the subject of an amalgamation of our iron properties with the Vale Colliery. I doubt

if that Colliery is not in a worse plight than we are in ourselves. I do not at any rate see how we can make a proposal without knowing how they stand.

The Vale Colliery people might buy us out altogether if they want to make their own property available.

I do not look with favour upon the proposition to erect blast furnaces. I think we should only be getting deeper into the mire, because I do not look for a speedy

revival of the iron trade.

The times when 7,000 miles of Railway were opened annually in the United States have gone by. This with a similar development of Railway elsewhere stimulated the production of iron and coal to a vast extent, and the new mines and new furnaces are now competing for a greatly diminished business. ^(Railways have been made in advance of present needs.) In a few years I have no doubt that iron will be in great demand ^{again,} and then there may be room for us if we can wait, which I am very