



Private

D. Bell,

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

(Museum and Office, 76 S^t Gabriel Street) MONTREAL.

Monday May 20th 1878

Dr. Dawson

the Gill Coll.

My dear Sir,

Our friend
Dr. J. N. Spencer from
Hamilton has been in town
for 3 or 4 weeks & is very ill.
He did not let us know till
a week ago. His principal
trouble arises from melancholy
and he exaggerates his other
ailments - thinks he suffers
from dreadful pains in the
head &c. He has acquired an
uncontrollable passion for
inhaling chloroform which
he finds means of getting in
spite of all we can do. The
fact is his moral sense in
the matter has become like that
of a drunkard.

The first evening I saw
him and before I could
find out the true state of
the case, he prevailed upon
me to give him enough of
the drug to set him asleep
which he said he could not
otherwise get over. These pains
in his head - Dr. Alloway (547
St. Joseph St.) is attending him.
Spencer tells them about him
that Dr. Alloway & I approve of
his taking as much chloroform
as he likes, & we are in both
and mean the practice.

I have been trying to get him
to the Hospital, but he rebels,
so he knows he would not get
chloroform there.

As the poor fellow has no male
relatives in the world that I know
of & is in a pitiable plight here
something must be done for him.
Mrs. Bell & I have done all we can
to make him give up this drug
& his laudary. Miss Porter has
been very patient with him but
all to no purpose.

It seems very willing that you would put
him under restraint and ^{any} there may be
some difficulties in the way of that.
If you could spare time to run down and
see him at No. 26 Calhoun Street, you
might persuade him to allow us to take
him to the hospital or do something to prevent
him killing himself with suddenness by an
assault on one of the present system.

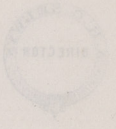
Adopting the remedy you recommend

Very truly yours

Wm. L. Bell

Geological Survey of Canada

Head Office, Ottawa, Ontario



Montreal, May 23 1898

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst.

in relation to the matter mentioned therein.

I am sorry to hear that you are unable to attend the meeting on the 25th inst.

as you have been so long absent from the country.

I am, however, glad to hear that you are still in good health.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

J. G. Bourne

Chief Geologist

Geological Survey of Canada

Ottawa, Ontario

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

J. G. Bourne

Chief Geologist

Geological Survey of Canada

Ottawa, Ontario

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