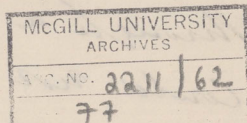


Box 999^{1.0}

London

Montreal 17 Sept. 1878.



Dear Dr. Dawson

I trust you will not

consider I am taking an unwarrantable liberty in laying the following before you for your consideration.

For many years any thing like systematic effort to reclaim or influence the unhappy men constantly passing like a dark poisonous stream through the Montreal Jail has been found virtually impossible apart from outside the office of Chaplain, a Government appointment, held by the Rev. Mr. Northwick. The G. M. C. A. have for long tried to get

a footing so as to be allowed to hold meetings or other wise, but through a certain vis inertia whi could not be accounted for wholly without success. The only way they could do any thing at all was what Rev. Mr. Fay, called "hand picking" that is finding out some individual whose case was known & trying by individual contact & visitation to influence him to join. Last week however Mr. Burdick sent in a formal requisition to the association, to Co operate with him, at least in so far, as sending one or two of their members to the public service held by him every Sabbath after noon & by simple gospel addresses & singing try to reach these out-cast, Mr. Burdick, S. & another

had a meeting with him last
Friday, & arranged to do as he requests
in as far as that was possible.

But we are appalled at the
difficulties of the work - there is none
more so in the city - requiring simple
implicit faith in a power outside
of our self - sympathy with the
fallen & sin hardened, & a burning
love both for Christ & for him. These
are gifts - spaces not possessed but
by a few & those in the associa-
tion who possess them to a
greater or less degree are already
fully occupied in other fields.

In talking the matter over today
Mr. Budge mentioned the case of
Vice Chas: Blake of Toronto & the
position he has taken as to the
prison there, it occurred to me,
"perhaps if the matter was laid before
Dr. Danson he would consent to go

or oftener.

once a month - any sabbath in
the month you chose I give a short
address such as you so well know
how - he will try to get three other
gentlemen for the other sabbath
some other belonging to the association
will always accompany them - Mrs
Budge Mrs Caldwell & other ladies
who are gifted with sweet voices
will endeavour to exert influence
than sympathies as Mr. Sawyer has done
with such blessed result - I am
the more encouraged to lay the matter
before you from not having seen any
notice of the Bible Class this winter
& sincerely trust this may be allowed
to supersede it & that still more
encouraging result may be the issue

I don't know if you noticed a letter
of mine in the pitress regarding a man
whose leg was cut off in the flu: Hospital
but who fell through drink - I am try-
ing to collect enough to buy him a leg &
the gentleman who first offered to help him
is still willing to do so. Yours truly
Wm. W. W.