

Montgomery

Canadian Literary Institute.

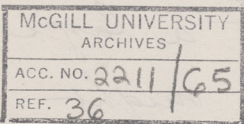
Woodstock, Jan. 4th 1879

Dear Sir

An unusual pressure of duties has prevented my replying to your kind letter before.

The only objection I see to your plan is that there must be a set of observers in both hemispheres to obtain results of any value.

We ought to have at least one set of observations north, and one south. This would necessitate the sending out of a vessel to carry observers and instruments. My idea was, that a scientific expedition might



be combined with the astronomical work. With proper care in the selection of assistants the enterprise might be so managed that a large and valuable collection might be made for our museum.

Let Archaeological, Zoological, Botanical, and other specimens be collected. Deep sea dredging might be undertaken also. I suppose a Committee of Scientific men to arrange the details would be necessary. If an estimate of expense could be made in some way it would not be difficult to call the attention of the government to the project. It might be done in this way to save time, let one or two persons publish articles on the subject giving estimates. I could give an estimate of expense in the transit ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~revenue~~ department, and I presume that

You could do the same in the
Collecting department. As to the
Cost of a vessel, salaries, where any
were paid, etc. the members of the
government would understand
that part as well as any one.

I was speaking to a lawyer of
high standing a few days ago,
Mr. Ball of this town, about
the matter. He was very much
pleased with the idea, but he
does not think the general govern-
ment could appropriate any
money for such a purpose; but,
he says that our local govern-
ment could easily do so, as it
has a surplus. He wished me to
bring the matter before the public
at once, and he promised to use
his influence by writing to certain
members of the local government

with whom he is acquainted.

I think I will write to prof. Wright
of Toronto University, and learn
what he thinks of the scheme.

Perhaps the two local governments,
or several of them could appropriate
something each, and it is at least
probable that the general govern-
ment might send the ship required.
It is just possible that some gentlemen
of wealth might be sufficiently
interested to contribute something.

I am not particularly anxious about
this matter, but I think it would be
a good thing for the Country, provided
it were heartily entered into.

Hoping to hear from you again I re-
main

Yours Truly

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