

Winnipeg P. Office
Man-

Dr Dawson C. D. & Co Feb 10/99
Principal of McIntosh College

Dear Sir

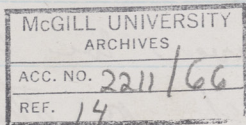
Knowing you have a great desire to hear of my success in this new country I now take the liberty of writing you this letter which will give you some idea of what I have been doing since I left Montreal after my arrival here in Winnipeg last June. I started with several more to look for land which nearly occupied a month we travelled some 400 miles in different directions finding it very difficult to secure good land near the City for domesticating however we took up a half section each on the Boyne River near

different districts to open up the great tracts
of land not settled on account of the large
swamp you have to pass through to reach it
hoping I have not intruded too much on your time
I will now draw to a close trusting yourself
Mrs. Dawson & family are all well

I remain yours

Richard W. S. Birch

formerly Assistant Professor
of McGill College



Pembina Mountain, it being
to late for to plant anything
I came back to Winnipeg and
secured a situation with Mr
Schneider late of Montreal in
whose employ I remained up till
last November which time he closed
up his business in the Grocery line
but since he is gone into the
Lumbering Business, however finding
I could get no employment, I started
trading on my own account having
bought a horse and wagon for the
purpose, up to the present time I have
done very fair, my trade increases
weekly, but still I think I shall
try farming in the Spring if
possible, I like this country very
well so far the climate is very
healthy and invigorating, the winter
as been very cold the thermometer
fell to 38 below zero, but still
I can't say I felt the cold more

South
South
Feb/79

than I did in Montreal, our
Snow fall as being very light
indeed, just enough for good
slighting, the snow is very dry
and never packs but drifts
very much on the prairie in
windy days making it dangerous
to travel. You seldom hear of any
one being frost bitten much less
Frozen to death which as being the
case in many places this winter
winipeg is growing very fast
and will soon become a large
City at an early date, there are
lots of Brick Buildings going up
also some new Churches under contract
in respect a Railway to start west
ward in the Spring also a Bridge
across Red River, this Country is
in great need of Railways in