

"American House" Hartford
Sep 6th 1849

Dear Sir

I was not aware, when I sent off my note to you relative to your set of specimens, forwarded to the Exhibition at Toronto - After which to be handed over to you, I have read your two papers with much pleasure. That on the Geology of Nova Scotia is interesting to me. For the castigation administered to the (would be) Critics of the Halifax Museum, He richly has merited all the reproaches you have given him. The Annual Address on the Quebec Group of Sir W Logan, I read last evening with much interest. As an Explorer and Investigator of the Economic substances, contained in our Mines and Quarries, I have directed my attention for several years. The immense fires in Chicago, Boston, and W John, have brought out the suit of Magnesian Stones for which I obtained (at the Centennial Exhibition) Two Diplomas and Two Medals. My Mineralogical investigations have been assiduously and perseveringly pursued by me. In Nova Scotia and the United States. At the U S Geog Office at Wash. I was placed on the footing of Prof Le Rossig of Cambridge (deceased) and the Institution offered its use free of charge by the late Dr Tracy. I am now engaged manipulating some of the (so called) Magnetic ores of Nova Scotia. I herewith send you the following a specimen of Manganese the same powdered and roasted with salt. Also a small

J. M. D. M. C.

button of the metal obtained. I wish to know the best way
to treat a sulphuret containing the metals usually associated
with such ores. Private, I was fortunate while in the U.S.
to be put in possession of the Montgomery Smelting Works
in Bloomfield & Jersey, where by the former method
of treating the Ore simply by sublimation with lead as
a flux. I got about 40 ounces of cupelled silver and from
47 oz. by parting with Nitric Acid obtained 1 1/2 oz. of fine
gold. I then came on to N.Y. to prepare for the International
Exhibition where I lost my right eye by inflammation while
at the quarries. I then for the first time adopted another way
of treating the same ore, that is by amalgamation with Mercury
from 20 ounces of the alloy I received 14 cuts of fine gold.
I am now at Hoboken, N.J. Testing under the auspices
of the Messrs Churchill and J. C. Deacon (Merchants)
prior to forwarding results to Europe. To obtain the necessary
capital to operate these properties, I have got some of the
metal into a chloride. First by Nitric, then into Muratic Acid,
also sulphate of soda and copper to precipitate. Please inform
me the best method to fuse the chloride into a button of
hard metal. You will by this lay me under many
obligations - You know when one has sea room in
the Ocean, one can afford to even go out of their course, at times
but as one approaches the end of a long journey on a beach
you coast a pilot is needed! I wish under untoward
Adversity in these circumstances, to do the best that may be done
in the premises. Hence my anxiety,
Yours truly,
George W. Stewart