

Prof copy to  
Mowatt

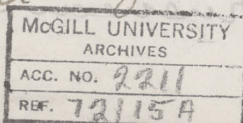
McGill College,

Montreal.

Jan 5, 1880.

My dear Mr Mowatt,

Will you excuse  
me for appearing to meddle  
in a matter that does  
not concern me, and  
addressing you on the  
subject of the Penitentiary of  
Montreal. When in  
Montreal last week I  
was surprised and I am  
glad to hear that  
the idea is still enter-  
tained of passing over  
your own best man  
who has been for years







Allow me further to say  
that in attempting to  
retain the connection of  
the clapsal chain with  
the Reading and in  
seeking for an English  
University man you incur  
the greatest danger, fewer  
English clapsal men have  
the administration ability &  
business industry which we  
none have have any previous  
great acquaintance with the  
systems of education which  
prevail in circumstances are  
most in advance of  
those in England. Scarcely  
any have any sympathy

with education at one  
was deformed and  
Ulysses, and a man  
either high church or  
low church in his  
sentences, and there  
are few not at one  
or the other extreme  
used the phrase for  
himself. The question  
is in my judgment a  
very grave one, and when  
you have a man of the  
highest eminence, actually  
higher at this moment  
in the world's estimation  
than any man I know  
at Oxford a Cambridge  
a ~~European~~ man of low  
rank practical sagacity  
acquainted with England



may work serious mischief  
not only to you but to  
us. It might play into the  
hands of those who are  
striving to build up denominational  
universities at the expense  
of those which are more general  
and might thus injure  
the cause of higher edu-  
cation throughout the Dominion.

There are I feel persuaded  
both in the Presbyterian & Episcopal  
Churches, those who are watching  
to see you slip in this matter  
and to take the utmost advan-  
tage of the opportunity in the  
interest of such colleges as Queen's  
and Trinity, and to the injury  
of higher education throughout the  
Dominion. My feeling in this  
respect must be a part of my excuse  
for thus addressing you. Sincerely yours  
W. D. A. C.

parent system and methods  
and interested in these  
things, a man of practical  
sugests and a christian  
without being wedded to  
denominational education.

I confess that personally  
I feel an interest in this  
matter, not merely because  
it seems fair that our own  
men should be honoured  
and promoted, and it gives  
encouragement to those who  
are preparing in our educational  
work; but because I foresee  
that our Englishmen are  
acquainted with this country

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present system and methods,  
and interested in their success,  
a man of practical sagacity,  
and a Christian without  
being wedded to denominational  
education.

I confess that personally  
I feel an interest in this  
matter. It is both just and  
expedient that our own  
men of educational & scientific  
eminence should receive en-  
couragement and promotion.  
On the other hand the  
appointment of an Englishman,  
unacquainted with this country,  
to a position of such im-  
portance, might do mischief  
beyond the limits of Ontario,

