

Tanjier, et. S. 8th March 1880

Dear Mr. Dawson,

Enclosed you will find a formal reply to your invitation. But I cannot let it reach you without ~~of~~ a less formal (& therefore, perhaps, more worthy of credence) assurance of my great reluctance to decline your invitation. The meeting cannot fail to prove of the greatest interest to all university men. And I would especially like to be there to bear grateful testimony to the work that you have been so long engaged in, nothing daunted by the coldness of professed friends & opposition of powerful enemies, in the cause of Canadian technical education.

In a country like Canada it is useless to try to interest the majorities in our legislative bodies in any such question. Private liberality must be looked to. Your eloquent appeals & constant efforts have apparently not met with any proportionate response. But I trust that before many years are passed McGill will be able to pride herself as justly on her engineering and scientific school as she does now on her medical one.

It has long been an object of my ambition to be able to assist you, no matter how humbly, in that direction. But I have not yet been able to offer you more than my best wishes.

Some few weeks ago I wrote W^r Harrington
a somewhat full account of my operations here.
There would be no object in repeating that letter.
I must express my hearty acknowledgments
of your kindness in furnishing me with letters
of introduction to W^r Cuellman & W^r Thomson.
The former has been able to render us great
services in his official capacity. And W^r Thomson
has kindly taken charge of our legal business.
Another of your friends in Halifax has also
shown me great kindness - W^r John S. Maclean.
I have spent many pleasant evenings at his house.

At present our act of incorporation is before the
local legislature. The company is to be styled the
Pittsburgh & N. Scotia Mining Company, with
a capital of \$200,000 & power to increase it.
The stock will probably be held entirely in Pittsburgh
except mine. We have contracted with Frazer &
Chalmers of Chicago for a complete 10 stamp mill,
which we hope to have in running order by end of May.
And we have secured control of the entire water power
of the Tanjier River. We hold nearly 100 mining areas,
with a length of about 3000 ft on our principal lead.

Recently we have taken up 300 acres of mining
claims down at Ecum Secum (or N. Secum Secum)
about half way between here & Goldenwillie.
And we intend to do some mining there in spring.
Remember me very kindly to all your family
& believe me Yours very truly
C. Frazer