

Ottawa 8<sup>th</sup> March 1881

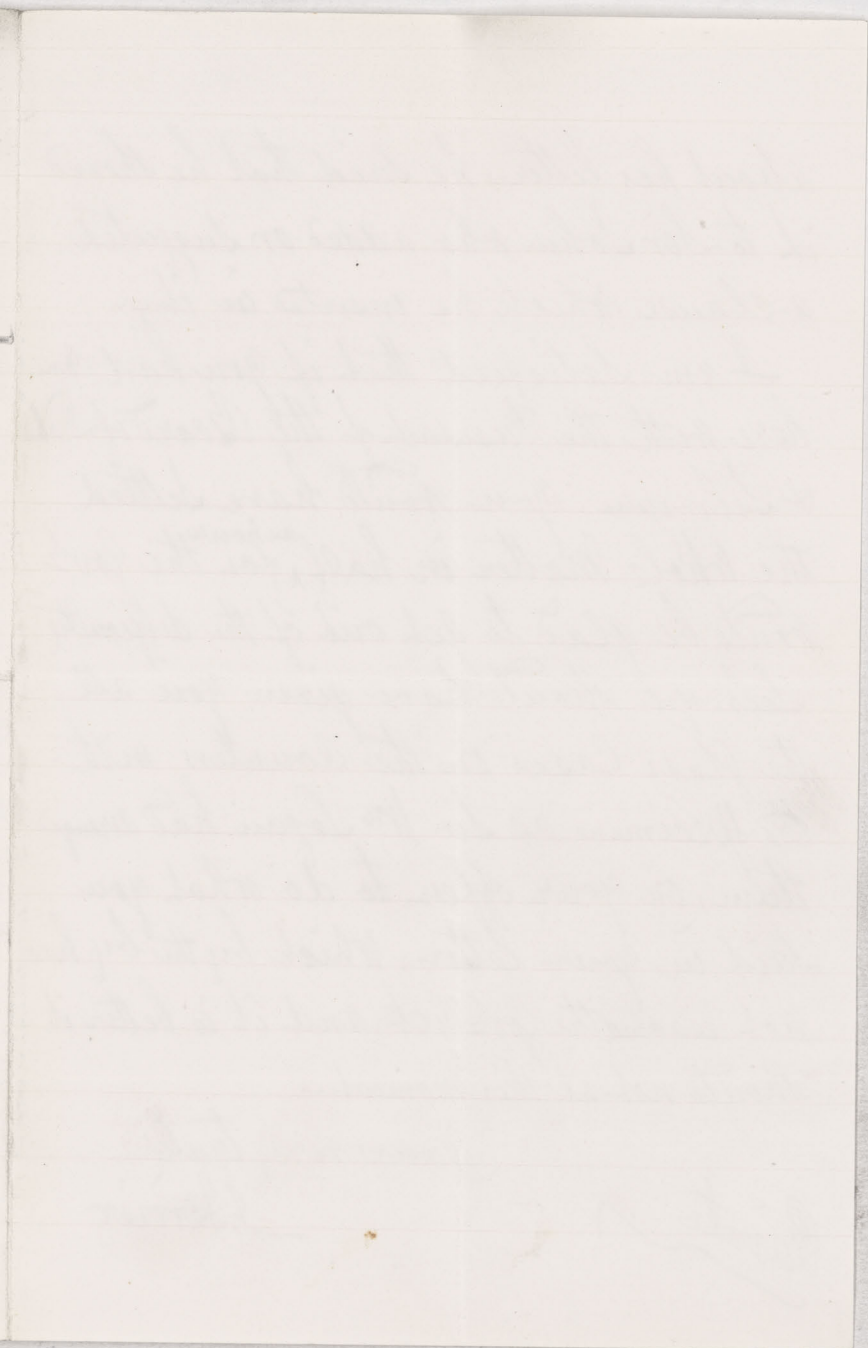
My dear Dr Lawson

Your letter with one for the Minister of Customs received, I waited on him, he hesitated, said that laws were not Philosophical Apparatus; I read the Clause, but he would not agree to my interpretation. He sent for Johnson Commissioner of Customs, he was of the same opinion, that laws were to hold insects &c. I thought that proved them philosophical apparatus; we talked it over in good humor. The Minister Powell saying that he would admit them if the law would allow them.

Private he gave the Board of Trade letters to Mr Ryan to day about the Geological Survey Museum, a letter from the Secty to Mr Masson. I had a conversation with him last week, he was very indignant at what Campbell had said

Jemus  
Nov 87

---



about his letter, he said that he showed  
it to Sir John who added or suggested  
a clause which he inserted in it -

I am satisfied that if you had come  
here with the President of the Board of Trade  
& Selwyn, you would have settled  
the whole matter in half <sup>an hour</sup>, for the Gov<sup>t</sup>  
would be glad to get out of the difficulty  
Selwyn should have given you all  
the glass Cases on the Counters with  
the specimens as Sir Wm Logan had arranged  
them, on your offer to do what you  
said in your letter, which by the by, has  
not reached the Gov<sup>t</sup> yet, and it is better it  
should not at this moment -

Yours very truly  
J. Ferrier

Private