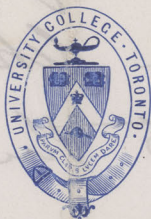


Private

D. Wilson



21<sup>st</sup> Feb. 1882

My Dear Dr. Dawson

You are mistaken in  
crediting me with having  
frightened the Marquis;  
for after twice attempting  
to write him on the subject,  
I dropt it, - partly owing  
to more pressing claims on  
my pen & time. I  
still meant, however,  
to do so. I have accor-  
-dingly taken advantage  
of your letter to write  
the enclosed - professedly

addressed to you; but which  
I should like you to  
enclose to the Marquis,  
without any special  
hint that it was written  
for his eyes. It may  
lead him to write to  
me on the subject; &  
if so I shall then be  
able to write him without  
feeling that I am  
intruding on him with  
opinions unasked.

I am really at a  
loss to comprehend from

Your letter what he  
would be at. The  
proposed Academy or  
Royal Society is either  
to be an exclusive body  
assumed to embrace the  
representatives of certain  
branches of Science &  
Letters; or it must be  
made free, like any  
ordinary Society, to  
every Canadian who  
is willing to pay the  
entrance fee.

If you can only  
persuade the Marquis

To abandon the whole  
affair. You will save  
us all a world of  
trouble. I shall  
do all that you may  
desire, with the heartiest  
good will, to forward  
your August A. A. A. S.  
Meeting. I had intended  
to go home this summer  
had it not been for that.

As for this Canadian  
Academy, call it the  
A. S. S. or Noble Order  
of Nobodies!

Yours faithfully  
Dan. Wilson