

at  
Pough. copy

McGill University,

Montreal, July 22, 1885,

To His Honour the Lieutenant Governor  
of Nova Scotia,

Sir,

The undersigned begs leave  
respectfully to represent that a certain lot  
of land was inherited by him from  
his father the late James Dawson of  
Pictou <sup>near the</sup> the Salmon River in the  
County of Colchester.

That certain clearings  
and improvements were made on the  
said lot, but that it was held prin-  
cipally as a woodland lot on which  
timber was cut from time to time  
by the proprietor or his heirs and that  
it was believed that such use as tim-  
ber land was in the circumstances

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more ~~useful~~ and profitable than any  
 other. Further, that the said lot  
 was not only claimed and visited  
 from time to time by the Undersigned  
 and his late father; but that  
 surveys and explorations were  
 made of it at their expense  
 with a view to the <sup>discovery</sup> of the valuable minerals therein and  
~~have especially~~ <sup>also</sup> with the object  
 of discovering useful minerals  
 thereon. Also that in the absence  
 of the Undersigned from the Province  
 the said lot was in charge of  
 the late James Purman of and  
 of Howard Purman of Peterborough  
 and that Purman was employed to

take care of the said land and the  
timber thereon, and that in his  
judgment the holding of such timber  
lands is of the utmost importance  
& the interests of the Province and  
should be encouraged by the  
Government,

That the undersigned on his  
return from an absence of nearly a  
year in Europe and the East was  
informed that <sup>a warning</sup> without any notice  
given to him the said property had  
been escheated and he is now  
offered the retraction of the property on  
payment of the sum of \$1200 said to  
be the expense of said escheat.

That while the said sum  
of \$1200 is in itself of small consequence

and <sup>very</sup> much less than the value which  
he attaches to the land in question,  
he maintains that for the reasons above  
stated the said excheat was unjust  
and recalled for in the public interest;  
and that it should be cancelled ~~and~~  
as a place here in the same position  
as heretofore, and also that he is  
entitled to be reimbursed for expenses  
incurred in consequence of the said excheat,  
which last claim however he is willing to  
waive in consideration of the restoration of his property.

Copy to Mr. S. J. ...  
of the ...

But should ~~the government find~~  
~~the said excheat a claim of \$100~~ <sup>fairly this</sup> he believes  
it will be his duty not only in his own  
interest but in that of the public to take legal  
proceedings <sup>at this in</sup> for the recovery of his <sup>property</sup> <sup>with</sup>  
damages, and fairly <sup>to</sup> lay the case  
before the public and to petition the Legislature  
for compensation as well as for such legislation  
as may prevent similar proceedings in future; and  
he believes that his public services to his nation  
justify what we state <sup>and have done heretofore</sup> <sup>in the opinion</sup> <sup>of the present</sup> <sup>of the present</sup> <sup>of the present</sup>  
entitled him to  
special consideration in this <sup>matter</sup> <sup>similar</sup> <sup>matter</sup>  
Respectfully asking