

Toronto

18th March 1887

My Dear Sir William

I find to my extreme regret that I was premature in my congratulations on the appointment of William to the City Engineership here. His selection by the Civic Committee was regarded, when I wrote as final. But unfortunately as it turns out, the Chief Engineer had the right of nomination for an assistant. This was only discovered in time to upset the work of the Committee; and yesterday afternoon. Mr. McDougall

received his nomination
and obtained the final vote.

Whilst greatly regretting this,
I can only comfort you
with the fact that the position
would have been far from
enviable. Mr Sproat, the
head engineer is slow, weak,
and incompetent. His
original appointment was
a job. Subsequent exposure
of incompetence and neglect of
duty ought to have led to his
dismissal. As a com-
promise, it was decided
to appoint a Head Engineer
over him. It has ended
in the present settlement.

If William had done
his duty he would have
found himself in another
conflict with the very
men who have ousted
him; and would have
persistently tried to do so.

I trust some better
appointment is in store
for him; for the salary
of \$1000 would have
been hardly earned.

Yours faithfully

Sam. Wilson

Dr Wm Dawson & Co.

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Oct 1874