

Brown  
Sydney

Beech Hill.  
Sydney Mines.  
C.B.

Dec: 17<sup>th</sup> 1887.

Dear Sir William Dawson

I have received your kind letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> Instant. also the Calendar of McGill University, which you sent.

My Father died at London on 30<sup>th</sup> Oct: 1882; my dear Mother went before him, she died on 30 March 1880. I last saw them when I was in England in May 1875. I shall ever cherish their loved memories.

This busy world goes on so fast, that, to us who look back, their lives seem but a brief dream. I myself am now just fifty years of age, and have grown up daughters, and a boy 15 years old, the

one of whom I wrote you.

As I mentioned to you I propose bringing him up as an Engineer, Civil or Mining. He is now at Upper Canada College, has been there since Sep' 1886. is now in their Form III. I observe from the last "Report" that he is studying Latin, History, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, French & German.

It seems to me that he should learn much more of the above subjects before he enters McGill Applied Science courses. and I think it would be best to send him first to your Faculty of Arts as an Undergraduate, say in Sep' next, I like the school he is now in, but I would prefer to have him at Montreal.

I should like to know however whether the Undergraduates are under the supervision of Masters at all times, and whether they live in the College buildings, or in Licensed Boarding Houses,

At my sons age, boys want  
to be under constant care of  
some Master.

I know that there must be  
great demands upon your time  
and attention, so I beg of you  
merely to put me in communica-  
tion with the Professor, or Master,  
whose duty it is to give information  
to parents on matters like the  
above, and I can by & bye give  
him an idea of the progress my  
son has made, and learn from  
him what my son's chances are  
for matriculation.

I have three brothers, who  
went through the course of the  
Royal School of Mines, London,  
One of them has been for years on  
the Geological Survey, in Jamaica  
and afterwards in Demarara,  
He is now on his way out to  
Burmah to report on some Ruby  
Mines for the Indian Government.  
Another of my brothers, who was  
assistant to W. Selwyn on the  
Survey of New South Wales, is  
now conducting the Geological

survey of West Australia,  
(at this moment he is in England  
on leave of absence).

M<sup>rs</sup> Brown who remembers you  
when at Pictou, desires me to  
say that she would be glad to  
have our boy at your College  
and sends her kind regards.

I owe you an apology for  
having, in my first letter,  
addressed you as Dr. Dawson,  
instead of using your proper  
title; I assure you that I  
did it unintentionally.

Yours sincerely  
R. H. Brown