

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
ACC. NO. 2211	33
REF. 24	

New Haven
Feb 26th 1891

My dear Sir,

Allow me to thank you most sincerely for your kind letter & for the interest which you manifest in the prospects of an old student.

It is certainly Sir, a great gratification to be able to talk with you a little about myself, & in so doing I trust you will not consider me egotistical.

What I can do, & what I am to do when I get through here, are subjects which worry me not a little, & to have something no matter how small in view for the future would give me

very great satisfaction. Occasionally I think of establishing myself in this Country as a young man's chances of success here are very good, but then it would never seem like home to me, & somehow or other I have a feeling that it is my duty to return to Canada and do what little I can in behalf of science there. The cause is a noble one, & while I do not anticipate ever doing anything brilliant for it; I think I can say that I can work perseveringly & faithfully; it is comforting to feel that so much good scientific work has been done by those who while they are not paragons of brilliancy are nevertheless plodding & determined.

My intention at present is to leave New Haven at the end of this term, - early in April, for the simple reason that I cannot afford to remain any longer, & not because I feel myself a full-fledged scientific man. Had I the means I should continue my studies for several years, either here or abroad, but situated as I am this is entirely out of the question.

Accordingly, sir, any work that I could do which you may happen to hear of in the mean time, I shall be thankful if you let me know of it. Some such connection with the University, as you speak of would please me very much, even if the

Harrington
Md 4

remuneration were small,
because being connected with
the first institution in the county
could not but be of advantage
to me in establishing myself
in Canada.

Selwyn seemed to think that
I expected a position of importance,
while all I wanted or thought of
was that of laboratory assistant
to Dr Hunt. Some private
work for a time would however
leave me much more at liberty
to travel about a little, and see
something of practical mining
& metallurgical processes.

I sincerely hope that you will
succeed in obtaining an endow-
ment for a Chair in engineering
& surveying. Your people only
understood how much they would be
benefitted, even individually, by the
advancement of scientific education,
they would I think give their means
from sheer policy, if influenced by
no higher motive. Sincerely yours
Principal Dawson I. L. S. F. R. S. B. Harrington