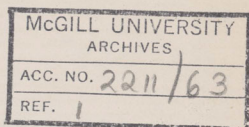


G. M. Dawson Fort-Report. V. 1.

Oct 2. 1878



Dear Father,

I have to acknowledge
several letters from you, & quite a
heap of "Naturus"^{rs} which I found
waiting me here yesterday evening.
This is the second mail I have got
this season, & brings Montreal dates
up to Aug 29! I found here also
a letter from Rankin at Victoria,
announcing his safe arrival there &
intending immediate departure for
Montreal. He is by this time I hope
safe at home & hard at work.
This He is written much to announce
my arrival here, & I shall love it

for the steamer Otter, which is daily
expected, to pick up when she comes
along.

I have been round at Quatsino
Sound on the West Coast of N.T., &
having had rather much disagreeable
weather, leading to much delay &
lying at anchor, am not sorry
to get back to the inside
again.

The weather now appears settled &
likely to be fine for a while, though
heavy & almost continuous rains
may now set in almost any
day. Tomorrow I hope to leave
here, & after giving a day or two to
the examination of the coast between
Den & Alert Bay, for the purpose

(5)

I approximately defining the nature
& area of the Coal-basin, shall make
the best way to Court, where I
may have to stay a day or two to
look at the Baynes Street Coal Mine,
where they have got into some trouble with
faults &c. After this Victoria, which
may be reached in about ten days,
with favourable winds, & should
this happen I shall try to get things in
train to leave Victoria by Steamer
Sailing on the 20th of this month.
These are the plans for the conclusion
of the summer's work.

I am anxious to get back as soon
as possible to Montreal, as the
unpublished state of my last year's
report demands attention before to

(4)
Anno die, when the rest of the
matter goes to press.

Mr Selwyn has not favoured me
with a line ~~since~~ either on the
subject of the report printed before I
left, or that which is to come.

It is to be supposed he is very busy
& probably regards me as beyond
Mail Carriers.

Please congratulate William for me
on the success of his Essay, & brilliant
achievements at the School. I hope he
may succeed in the Toronto matter, but
feel that non-success should be no
Cause of Surprise, for notwithstanding
Capability, he is very young for so
responsible a post, where youth is
a real disadvantage
Yours affectionately
George