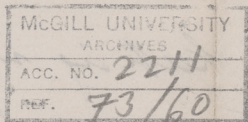


WM. BELL DAWSON,  
Civil Engineer,  
Land Surveyor and Architect,  
260 ST. JAMES STREET,  
MONTREAL.

W B D

Aug 6, 1880.



My dear Father,

I send herewith the  
Calendar of King's College which I  
have received and acknowledged.  
The Professorship is entitled Mathe-  
maticis, Natural Philosophy, Astr-  
onomy and Engineering; rather  
comprehensive. The Mathematics begins  
at the most rudimentary parts, &  
is almost wholly pure; the text-  
books also are all of the antiquated  
or "Metemalal" type, so that many  
of the senior students who have  
survived the course, will be found  
in a state of darkness and wonder

diness from its effects, and these effects will not disappear until a new crop can be raised. I am afraid then it will not be much chance at King's for keeping up ones knowledge, and so much pure Mathematics, and I am inclined to think that I am likely to advance my interests better by remaining here. If it is merely as a stepping-stone to something else, the stone I am on will probably prove as good a one to step from as any other; unless indeed a Halifax Professorship is an immediate probability, in which case there is the advantage of nearness.

The Tunnel Survey is still in abeyance. Mr. Shanty is determined not to make any definite step if



these in the way of a beginning until  
the money for the surveys is paid  
over. I think him quite right in  
shewing this. He has asked me to con-  
sider the arrangement he has made  
with me as contingent upon this,  
which of course I have consented to.  
I have not heard for a day or two  
~~has~~ <sup>whether</sup> the negotiations are completed yet.  
In the mean time, I have been  
finishing up some other work, to  
have my time clear as far as  
possible; and I have things now in  
good train, ready for action at a  
moment's notice. Should this work  
"fall through" I might be more  
tempted to think of King's college.  
Ought I to write to Pres. Dart if  
I decide not to apply? I would  
not like to send in an application  
unless I intended to accept the offer  
if made to me. I will write

for your answer & the turn of  
events here before deciding finally.

You will notice that Hulman  
& Walbank have got the Compendium  
Series to make. They speak at  
once (in the notice in the "Witness") of  
further work which they expect to  
come out of it, which perhaps justify  
ly accounts for the looseness of their tender.  
I have received Mother's letter of Monday  
which I will answer soon; & also  
one from R. from Toledo, (Aug 4).

I have written to Redpath asking  
his movements, but have not heard  
in reply.

Our "Juzette" is being mailed to you  
& Dr. H's sent to his house. I will  
send the name of that very Text book  
with memoranda I have at home, when  
I write again.

With love to Mother,

Your affectionate son  
William.