

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

Halifax,

7-2-'81,

Dear Father,

Since writing last, I have seen the Lt. Governor who had told me more than once that he wished to talk over the matter of the survey I am now making; I found him in when I called one afternoon, and gave him the explanations he wished, and also took the opportunity to mention my desire of obtaining work from this new Railway Company. I tried to show the importance of my present work, and

its advantage to the Province; and hoped that any change that I might make would not interfere with its continuance; and said also that the new position at which I aimed would be of quite as much service to the Province as my present one; in all of which he agreed with me. The Syndicate is the all-absorbing topic at present. The Bill has passed ~~the~~ the Lower House, & was sent up to the other House this afternoon. It will there meet with considerable opposition, as the "Grits" will endeavour to treat it as a party question. The Gov^t appear confident of having a small majority in its favour however. There have been no material

changes made in it; and its fate
will probably be decided this week.
Mr. Blunkett, whom I saw yesterday,
tells me that he intends leaving for
Montreal as soon as the measure
passes, to arrange for the appoint-
ment of a Chief Engineer, for which
post he has already received some
forty applications. He will then
return here (probably with the Chief
Engineer) and will leave for Eng-
land on the 18th of March. He
advises me to hand him an ap-
plication for the position of "Division
Engineer" on which he will make
his own notes ^{and recommendations} and keep in readi-
ness to lay before the Chief Engineer
as soon as he is appointed. This

seems to me my best plan, and I
intend to ~~do so~~ act upon it. Mr Blunke
etts name is the only one signed to the
Agreement accompanying the Act. The
other names have now been made
public & I enclose a list of them.
Tyler is President of the G. T. R.; Lord
Cunbrell a brother of the Marquis of
Lorne; Lord Ashley is a son of the
Earl of Shaftsbury, I believe; Baker and
Lovett are Garmouth men; and
Duffus a Halifax merchant. I will
see what answer I get from Major
Rogers; although I think I am likely to
get a better offer from this Company.
I would certainly prefer this Province
to the Rocky Mountains.

Your affectionate son,

William.

Sir Henry W. Tyler, K. C. B., M. P.; the
Hon. Anthony Ashley-Cooper, commonly
called Lord Ashley; Lord Colin Campbell,
M. P.; John Winterbotham Batten, Esq.;
the Hon. Norman de l'Aigle Grosvenor,
commonly called Lord Grosvenor; the
Honourable Lorain G. Baker; Thos. G.
Kenny; Jas. B. Duffus; William D.
Lovett, Esquires.

Province Building, Halifax, N.S.

~~Copy~~
G. W. Plunkett, Esq., C.E.

Sir,

As I understand that the Nova Scotia Railway Company intend to construct several important lines in this Province, I beg to offer myself for the position of Division Engineer on the proposed works. With respect to my professional training and experience, I may refer to the memorandum and testimonials enclosed.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Wm Bell Dawson.

W.D.
28/82