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W. B. Dawson

11-5-81.

My dear Father,

It seems that the Proclamation of the Lieut. Governor did not appear in Saturday's "Official Gazette," as I looked it all through without seeing it. Mr. Shanly, whom I saw yesterday, has not heard anything from the Company since he sent in his Report. I have no doubt that they are anxious to go on with the work as soon as possible; but the question seems to be whether they really have succeeded in raising the capital

as this at present seems doubtful.
The Directors of the Quebec & Ontario
Railway (Ottawa to Toronto) have postponed their meeting till the 3rd of June, ~~the~~
~~so~~ (in order to enable one of their number
now on his way from England, to be
present) I saw this morning in
the "Gazette" the notice which I now
enclose. I have written to the Secre-
tary, forwarding my testimonials - and
asking whether the Directors would
offer me a position on the works.
Do you know any of those mentioned?
In the mean time I am going on
with my own work at my office, &
will hope also to find time for the
drawings you wished me to make for
you. I also think of writing a
Paper on the Surveys for the Tunnel
Fre
st

so far as they have been carried out
yet. There are a number of points
which would be of interest, especially
~~the~~ⁱⁿ an English publication.

I have received from the Institution
of Civil Engineers by last mail a proof
of my paper on the "Paroz Reservoir".
It will only make four or five pages
of reading matter, the principal part
of the communication as you may
remember being the drawings. ~~These~~
I do not know whether it is intended
to publish these. Two of my sketches
however are reproduced as wood-cuts
in the text. I am glad this is to
be published, as it contains a succinct
discussion of the relative merits of the
French & English practice in the con-
struction of Reservoir embankments, which

is thoroughly original. The Paper will also serve to remind my correspondents of my existence, which will doubtless be of advantage to me.

My present position with regard to my prospects is one of watchfulness with regard to what is going on ~~or~~ may turn up, combined with the desire to improve the present moment as far as possible. If you hear of anything in Phila. which it would be worth my while to apply for I shall be glad to make the attempt.

I am very glad to see that your lectures are attended with so much encouragement & success. I trust they will also give a fresh impetus to Philadelphia thought in the right direction.

George left by the 10 P.M. western train yesterday evening.

With love to yourself & Mother,

Your affectionate son.

William