

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

WBD  
Waverley House,  
June 23 '81.

My dear Father,

I arrived yesterday morning after a very comfortable trip. I slept well at night, and arrived here feeling quite rested, and recovered from the bustle of leaving Montreal. I had a good view of the country it is proposed to survey, from the train; and understand more clearly the methods it will be best to employ. On talking over with Mr. Breckman & Mr. Gilpin yesterday the region it will be best to commence with,

we have decided in favour of the dis-  
trict immediately east of this, including  
the Lawrencetown, Waverley, Kennew, Mt.  
Unincke, and Montagu Mines. I shall  
leave, probably on Monday, by stage  
for Porter Lake which will form a  
good limit for the work on its eastern  
side. It is about 16 miles from here  
toward the Strait of Cunes. The western  
limit will be the Halifax & Windsor  
R'y, on which I can get good fixed  
points to finish on. I shall also write  
to Moncton for the Railway plans there  
which will be useful in mapping during  
next winter. From what I have seen  
of the country, the only way to conduct  
the survey will be by taking it up  
by bus, beginning with a main

stream on the coast & following up its  
course & those of its tributaries, till the  
basin is finished; and so on. Any  
other method would lead to confusion  
as the country is very intricate, and  
impossible to connect into systems of  
water flow except by tracing out the  
streams. I will use a County Map  
of Halifax as a general guide to direction.

I have not seen Mr. McLevin yet  
but I understand he is in town. I  
shall arrange for a permanent address  
here before leaving, & let you know.

Yesterday evening I took tea at the  
McLevins. Gordon McL. is leaving  
for England in about 10 days where  
he will remain for part of the  
summer. He is now very much

absorbed in the scheme of University  
consolidation — the union of the  
various colleges in the province. There  
is to be a meeting this evening to  
form an association for the promotion  
of this cause.

The weather is pleasant to-day -  
Yesterday it was rather chilly -

Your affectionate son,

William.

Mr. Ross, (a brother of the Ross of Pickton  
who used to be interested in the Polson  
Lake & other properties) is here at  
present. He is a permanent boarder  
since he lost his wife some few  
years ago.