

H' fax, Monday, May 8, '82.

William

Dear Father,

I saw George at the end of last week. The steamer passed my boarding house just before dinner on Friday even^g, & I went down to the wharf afterwards. I had the opportunity of talking over my prospects with George. He advises my informing G^r: Selwyn, as soon as Mr. Plunkett puts his offer to me in definite shape; as it now appears there is some possibility of the Dominion Gov^t: continuing the Topographical Survey alone. All that I have done so far with respect to the work Mr. P. has

spoken of my undertaking is to design
the boring tools, and make a few
preliminary arrangements. This has taken
about two days, counting broken time. But
I of course ^{will} take good care to avoid
being responsible for the value of anything
that has to be ordered. Mr. P. has a
private secretary, a Mr. Wood, who will
be here this summer, & will meet
all certified accounts which I send
in to him. He appears to be a busi-
ness-like person, and acquainted with the
Annapolis region. He will help me to
find suitable overseers for the men,
&c. &c. Meanwhile, Mr. Plunkett
is waiting on this side till the Bill
now before the Dom. Parliament, (rel-
ative to the Dominion interest in
the Woods & Annapolis, & the Pictou
Branch) ~~has passed~~ will pass its

second reading. I do not know whether
this has any direct relation to the work
taken of which he has been speaking to me;
but I will see him, probably tomorrow,
to arrange definitely with him as to
terms.

George was looking very well, and
will certainly have pleasant company
in crossing. He referred to the different
mining districts which he intended to
visit, and I told him what I knew
of those in France, and the position
relation of the Mines Dept. to the work
now going on. He knows well enough
the different places he wishes to see;
but, in his view, to make any plan
as to the order in which these dif-
ferent places are to be visited, would
deprive the trip of all the pleasure
there is in it! De justibus non
disputandum. He has with him

some German books which he means
to study on the way — a new system
of learning the language very highly rec-
ommended which I discovered for him.
We drove round the city and the
park on Saturday, with Mrs Selwyn.
It was a beautiful day, & the weather
has been very fine since. The steamer
left a little after two.

The Macleans (Mrs & Miss)
came to-day for fault, but where
they expect to meet Miss Mary,
who has been at school in Cin-
cinnati. Mr Maclean has lately re-
turned from a very pleasant trip
to the Bermudas.

Yours affectionate son,

William.