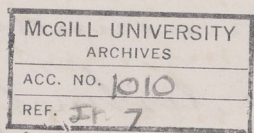




GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

(Museum and Office, 76 St. Gabriel Street) MONTREAL.

Philadelphia July 26<sup>th</sup> 1876



Re Exhibition  
interest  
exhibits

My darling wife

Do not be alarmed  
at the official paper; my letter,  
if it ever gets written amid all  
this confusion will not be  
an official document, but a  
heterogeneous jumble of "con-  
fusion worse confounded"

I am seated at a little desk  
in the Exhibition building and  
have to get up every few moments  
to answer the questions of the  
vulgar crowd, who as a rule  
imagine that the gilded model  
showing the amount of gold pro

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duces in British Columbia is  
a solid mass of gold. One  
wonders how it could ever have  
been lifted, and another says  
"sure if I had it I'd soon mill  
it up" - some simply gaze  
in mute astonishment.

x x x An interruption, and  
really I feel repentant for  
what I have said about the  
vulgar crowd, for I have  
just had a visit from Dr. Craik,  
Miss Simmer & Miss Smith. The  
visit was of short duration, but  
it did me good to see some  
Montreal faces. I am feeling  
very blue this morning, for  
just think of it, it is Wednesday  
~~afternoon~~ and I have heard  
nothing of my dear little wife  
yet. Surely I'll get a letter by to-morrow.

This morning I received a letter from your father, dated July 20<sup>th</sup>, and I am very glad to learn that he has sent in a formal application on behalf of George for the position of palaeontologist to the Survey. I am sure I hope George will get the appointment, for he would be the right man in the right place, and it would be so pleasant to have him in the office. I shall write to Mr. Selwyn by to-day's post about the matter, and add what little weight I can to what Dr. Dawson has already written.

Mr. Selwyn left for Montreal yesterday and I miss him very much. He was very kind to me while here, and introduced me to numbers of people whom he thought I might like to meet—

among others to a Prof. Hofer from Austria, to whom I took quite a fancy. Prof. H. does not speak much English, but pronounces his German words so distinctly that I had not much difficulty in understanding him, especially when we talked about such subjects as "Glimmer-schiefer".

I come to the Exhibition about half past eight in the morning, and remain here until after six in the evening. Most of the time I have to remain in the Canadian Court, but occasionally wander out of the fold and pay a visit to some of my neighbours. I have not yet examined the Canadian exhibits very carefully, but have seen enough to know that while there is much that is poor, there is also



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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

(Museum and Office, 76 S<sup>e</sup> Gabriel Street) MONTREAL.

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much to be proud of. The Educational Department of Ontario makes a wonderful display - photographs of colleges & schools, books, maps, models, apparatus &c &c; but as for poor Quebec - well what could you expect? - a few toy models of R. C. colleges & convents with quantities of green trees about them, the sort of thing that might amuse infants, but disgusts at least one full grown Canadian. As for the photographs of Mc Gill which were sent to Perrault, they have not been placed on exhibition at all. Why represent a Protestant institution? Quebec is essentially a R. C. province & therefore her exhibits should be R. C.

Perrault says "there is no room for the photos," they should have been framed. "Sir I tell him daily that I'll soon find room for them if he will give them to me, but he always makes some excuse and slips away like the slimmest of snakes."

Yesterday I spent some time in the Queensland court. Like us they exhibit a gilded model representing the amount of gold obtained in Queensland during the past eight years - \$30,000,000. There is a beautiful collection of showy butterflies, & round the walls of the court an interesting collection of coloured photographs which give one a good idea of Australian scenery.

The Swedish court adjoins that of Queensland, and contains a magnificent display

of iron and iron ores - by far  
the finest in the exhibition.  
In passing through the Danish  
Court to-day, I was much  
struck with the terra cotta  
vases, urns &c. The designs  
are most artistic and the  
prices moderate as compared  
with those of similar wares  
from other countries. In  
the Brazilian court the  
jewelry made of the wing cases  
of gorgeous beetles attracts much  
attention, as does also the feather-  
work. The Italian court is,  
I think, more frequented by  
ladies than any other; for  
there they can feast their eyes  
on lovely jewelry. Husbands a  
rule ~~are~~ when they see the  
word Italy endeavour to pass  
by on the other side; for the  
Italians do not in the least

object to selling their jewelry.

I wore my puggory one day and it proved to be the principal attraction of the exhibition. Men, women, & children stopped to gaze at me and one young lady even clapped her hands & exclaimed "Oh how pretty!"

A more sober-minded young man <sup>was heard to say</sup> "Well, I guess there's a join to be a funeral". Altogether it was too much for me, and I shall now abstain from soft goods in the shape of puggories until I have laid up a fresh supply of hardware in the form of brass.

Does Rankine still intend to come to Philadelphia? If so you had better let me know. I might send him a guide-book to study in advance.

And now my darling, much loved and much missed wife I must close this tiresome yarn. I know it is a very disconnected sort of a letter, but you must bear in mind that I have had to get up & leave it as much as thirty times.

With love to all the family & ever ever so much for your own dear self  
Believe me  
Your fond husband  
Bernard.