



GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

(Museum and Office, 76 S^t Gabriel Street) MONTREAL.

Jan^y 19th 1871

My dear Barrington -

It appears that I have been rather premature in offering you from Dr Hunt the position of Asst in the Laboratory - He received your letter this morning & while very much pleased with both it & the one from Bush commending you & high - he has asked me to write to you softening ~~it~~ down my offer a little - it appears that he is afraid he will commit himself by asking you to come on at once - as he & Mr Delwyn do not pull very well together - But I still advise you to come as soon as you possibly can & have no doubt but that you will at once enter the situation - You should have written to me, first, as the Dr offered you the situation through me & it could all have been arranged through me - However, I hope you will understand that the Dr is only a little afraid that you look upon it too much in the light of an important appointment - when it is merely for the present, a junior asst for the Laboratory work - What I spoke of in my letter chiefly - was, the "good opening for a young man" which this post presented -

So that you may understand exactly how matters stand I will relate all that has transpired regarding this subject — In the first place I handed part of your letter to Dr Hunt — he read it, was much pleased with the idea, & spoke to Mr Delroyne — Mr Delroyne thought it very desirable to secure some good assistant — ~~but~~ said that funds were low — but ~~he~~ thought that there would shortly increase — on the whole he was favorable towards the appointment — Dr Hunt then mentioned to me his conversation with Mr Delroyne — & advised me to write to you, letting you of the vacant post — & that if you came on he would do his possible for you — Then Mrs Come in — I suppose — my mistake, in writing to you with too great confidence, as if all was settled — & your reply accepting it as an appointment, rather frightened the Dr, or he feared the displeasure of the new Director — Your mistake old fellow was in not writing to me enclosing the Dr Bourke's letter, & all would then have been well —

As it stands at present, I take all the blame upon myself, but the case with you is not at all changed & your prospects are as good as ever — if not better after your enclosed letter — & I would sum up the facts as follows —

* The art's post is vacant & has to be filled soon -
Your name is on the 10th good books A'
Mr Delroy is agreeable & will likely come to terms
with you when he sees you - & the sooner you
are in hand the better -

You must use your own judgement as to
whether you had better come in at once or not -
but the thing cannot be settled definitely until you
appear in person -

Please destroy this letter when you
have read & digested it, as it is in Confidence -
& Excuse my too great haste in taking things
for granted, & making you such a definite offer

Yours Very Sincerely
W. V. V. -

W. Please answer this, & address to me
W. V. V.

2. Learn this up for June -