

New York, Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> 1876.

Dr. Harrington,

Dear Sir:

Your favor  
of the 29<sup>th</sup> ult. is at hand.  
By a singular coincidence  
I received at the same  
time a letter from Prof.  
Dana likewise informing  
me of Mr. Whiteaves'  
doings and intentions.  
I am most happy  
to learn that the work  
has been already un-  
dertaken, and that, too,  
by one vastly better  
fitted to carry it out  
as it should be done  
than myself. The fact  
of Mr. Whiteaves' suc-  
cessorship appears to

to me to render it  
peculiarly appropriate  
that the task should  
fall to him. At the  
time I wrote you  
I had no knowledge  
of his appointment,  
otherwise I should have  
written urging him  
to act as he has, in  
case he had not done so already.

As it is I can  
only express my grati-  
fication at what you  
communicate and thank  
you most cordially  
for your very kind  
letter. I remain

Very sincerely Yours  
S. W. Ford

Jan 2/78  
S. W. Ford -

---

Obituary of Billings