

ACC. 1010

L. V. A. forest
Three Rivers.

March 4/78

Jasper

Rec'd March 5/78
Amount " "

Three Rivers, 4th March, 1848.

Dear Sir,

I have just received your letter of the 2nd Instant, I am exceedingly happy to learn that the Geological interests of Canada will be represented by Mr. Selwyn at the Universal exhibition at Paris, though, under present circumstances, I have to regret very much his absence, owing to the details which I had given him respecting my St. Maurice explorations, which made the subject of my letter to him and which you have kindly and so promptly answered.

answered. In order to furnish
you further details I transmit
to you herewith a full copy
of the letter, from the Department
of the Interior of Canada, to
Mr. Jetté in which you will
see it stated that My petition
therein mentioned is to be refer-
red to Mr. Selwyn. I presume that,
in his absence, the report of on
that petition will be made by
yourself, unless the papers can
be forwarded to Mr. Selwyn
at Paris, but of course, this re-
mains entirely with yourself.

Mr. Selwyn had expressed me
a great desire to prosecute fur-
ther, on ^{the} account of the Geological
Survey, the researches, so successful
by

ly begun by Mr. Peit & myself, and you will see when you read our petition that the grant we ask is not in our favor, but for the Geological Commission to prosecute our researches. As you have an opportunity of meeting after Professor Dawson, of McGill College, you might mention the subject to him and I am sure that he will express you a great interest for the prosecution of our researches as prayed for by us. I therefore hope that your report on our petition will be favorable and that we shall succeed, notwithstanding

withstanding the concluding paragraph of the letter from the Department of the Interior, which seems to observe, that we must be very sparing, in matters of Geological researches. My opinion is that the Geological works of your Commission will, at a very short date, bring very material wealth to this Country and that St. Maurice in particular, will supply the world with inexhaustible sources of petroleum, from vast subterranean lakes, ~~and~~ now forcing their precious liquid to the very surface. I will thank you, for forwarding my letter to Mr. Selwyn as you proposed and if not to much trouble for supplying

plying me with his address,
as I may write to him myself.
Should you have occasion to
mention my name to Professor
Dawson, I shall be much obliged
to you for presenting that gen-
tleman my sincere respects ^{to which}
his great courtesy to me and
kindness to me have given him
the greatest claim from my
part.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most humble servant,

L. W. Benest.

B. J. Harrington, Esq. B. A.
C. & Co.
Geological Survey,
Montreal