



GEOLOGICAL & NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY.

Alfred R. C. Selwyn, LL.D., F.R.S., Director.

MUSEUM & OFFICE, SUSSEX ST. OTTAWA.

Ottawa, Oct. 12th 1883.

Dear J. Harrington.

Last spring J. Selwyn

asked me to rearrange and name the so-called Scientific Rock Collection in the museum here. I have accordingly been endeavouring to make it a collection of typical Canadian rocks and have been obliged to take out some of the old ones, and put in some others not already contained in it. Among the latter were a number of the most interesting nepheline dykes from the vicinity of Montreal, which you have been studying.

I am however at a loss to know what names to give to two varieties of these

rocks. viz. that corresponding to the nepheline basalt in the newer series, and that corresponding to the lava nephelinite. Although the classification of rocks according to age may eventually be abandoned, it cannot at present be replaced by any better one and as these two rocks fill up gaps in the system adopted by Rosenbusch and now generally employed, it seems to me that it would be very advisable to give them names. If you would publish a short description of them - (these two varieties especial) - and thus secure the credit for yourself and Mr^s Gill, I think it would be a good thing, as the Americans have already found elaeolite granite in their country and I am in daily fear that they will come across these rocks also.



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As these rocks, of age older than the Tertiary, have never been found elsewhere, the greatest interest would be taken in them by petrographers everywhere -

I have of late been intending to get a more recent edition of Fresenius *Quantitative* than that which I have at present (1876). Mr Hoffmann says that the German edition which is now partly issued contains but very few and unimportant alterations. Do you think that the last American edition by Allen would be any better? I have not had an opportunity of examining

a copy as yet.

If my eyes, which have not quite recovered from a spell of too long continued microscopical work last spring, permit me to do sufficient reading, I would like to go up for my examination for a master's degree this winter. Will the faculty allow me to go up in April instead of December, and do you think it would be possible to have the days of examination placed near the end of the series so that I could go down to Montreal and be examined and if successful wait for my degree without a long absence for my duties here? With best respects to Mrs Harrington and yourself, I remain -

Yours very truly -

Frank Adams

J. Adams

Oct-12/83