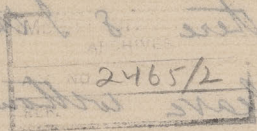


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To Practice
~~Nova Scotia~~

McGill College, Montreal
Nov 2. 1872



Dear Sir

Having just yesterday returned from Nova Scotia I take the opportunity of writing a few lines in explanation of the work done on the iron deposits, to forward by Monday's mail.

My Report with all details I shall mail by next Friday's Steamer I hope to be able at the same time to forward a set of large specimens of the ores with some samples of limestones fire-clays &c which may be useful.

Some of the explorations required more time for their completion than anticipated at the time you left

We were also some days ago allowed
to go on the Limonite area at
Fraser Saddlers & set to work
there & I thought it a pity to
leave without doing anything there.

The limonite deposit where exposed
by further work in the brook has a
breadth of 14 to 15 feet, it is associated
with a bed of "ore gravel" over 2 feet
wide. An opening several feet in
length & over 8 ft deep was made in
the "gravel" at the side of the solid ore
the wall of which was followed for
that depth & as nearly as possible
vertical. From the position of the
indications on other parts of the property
this lode must either change its course
considerably, or be shifted by small
faults. In either case the deposit near

abundance

the Northern line, from the great ^{length} of
the fragments must be of great
importance.

At the Red Haematite at "Websters" nothing
has been done since you visited the
place last month, except a little
additional trenching. The thickness of the
ore bed at the opening you saw first
has been since increased by 3 ft., & the
total thickness of the bed at this place
now visible is 14 ft 6 in, exclusive of
a band of slate 3 ft 10 in which runs
through it. This is one of the thicker
parts of the deposit but by no means
exceptionally so. Of the outcrop of this
bed about a mile has now been
actually proven by trenching & openings
at short-distances.

The Spathic ore at Sutherlands River
has yielded no facts of importance
since the time of your visit. The drift
covering the rock is very deep, so much

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so as to prevent any exploration
by trenching, & to necessitate sinking
& cross-cutting. The ore is evidently
a bed & appears to have a somewhat
nodular character consisting in places
of harder & softer portions. It is not
so thick where cross cut in the shaft
near the brook as at the surface
& probably will continue thinning &
thickening alternately when followed.

The ore itself is of the very best quality
& in depth appears to be a nearly pure
Carbonate, & to lose the small quantity
of oxide with which surface specimens
were mingled.

The specular ore has been sunk on for
a depth of 18 ft in the E. Shaft. At
a short distance from the surface a
"horse" of hard quartzite rock ~~was~~

unreached on one side, but at the bottom of the shaft the specular ore was found passing under & cutting out the hard rock; & the whole bottom of the shaft is now formed by ore. The appearance of the ore at this place is very favourable with the exception of the occurrence of a small quantity of pyrites which seemed to be especially associated with the wall rock & the "horse" passed through. The West-Shaft went down about 13 ft in quartzite impregnated with ore, but by subsequent trenching the main body of ore was found to lie somewhat south of the Shaft where there is a breadth of about 20 ft. of very good ore.

With regard to the purchase of mineral rights on farms near the limonite ore nothing has yet been accomplished. Fraser tried all the owners on whose properties good indications of the ore are found. He

thinks some of them may yet come
to terms, but Grand who owns some
of the most promising indications
of all seems most-obdurate &
wishes to "leave the iron as a heritage
to his children". Grants & the two
other farms remaining North of the
present area are the most important
I have asked Holmes to see if he can
do anything with them, such for instance
as to get the farms bonded for a
small sum for 6 or 8 months & during
that time to give you the option of
purchase at a fixed price.

I visited Haliburton's Coal area in
company with himself & Mr Wier who
has explored it for him. On the whole
I do not consider the property of
great value. Only a small part
of the area as shown on your

tracing is underlain by Coal. The coal measures being bounded by a fault to the N. E. There is probably a considerable quantity of coal as the main seam is about 13ft thick as seen at Mitchell's Small mine near Haliburton S. W. boundary. The coal itself however, as seen in this mine is not of first rate quality being somewhat pyritic & having several bands of "stone".

The Barton area is certainly more promising though as in the Haliburton area the part underlain by Coal is small compared to the total surface of the property. ^{according to Sir W. E. Logan's maps} The coal beds are continuations of those on Moar's area but their exact position & thickness remains unproven. The property would therefore have to be taken to a great extent on chance & the subsequent proving of the area would require some time.

With regard to the Brookfield property
Having already visited it in Mr. Filer's
interest I do not feel at liberty to
say very much about it as I do not
know ~~at~~ at present what his intentions
concerning it may be. Mr. Filer possesses
my report upon it which I dare say he
would gladly let you see. I may say
however that though the indications are
good they are not nearly equal to those
on the E. River. If you chuse, I might
write to Fraser to spend a day or
two in exposing the deposit.

The explorations on the Iron deposits
of Pictou County may therefore on the
whole be considered quite conformable
of the surface appearances & indications
& the quantity of ore covered & at
your disposition must in the
opposite be very great.