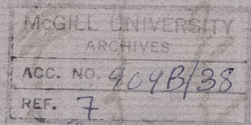


Keegan Dec 15
1874.



Toronto.

Dec. 15. 74.

Dear Dawson,

Yours of Nov. 12.

was only received on my
arrival here on the 6th inst.
and would have been
answered sooner but
that I have been
suffering from a
heavy cold contracted on
the way down: prior to
my arrival I was laid
up for three days in
London, but am now
getting quite well again.

Having an indistinct idea
that I had heard you
say you would like to
have a copy of the
Admiralty Manual, I sent
you one the other day.
I will also ship you
tomorrow by express a
box of skulls from Millman
that I bought down with
me.

The "Spitting Devil Club",
consisting of myself, presiding
fiend: Ashe, recording angel:
Ward, "patience devil": Coster,
"Brandy fiend": and King,
"inn fiend": had a jolly
trip down and made the
people everywhere open
their eyes. We drove from
Dufferin to Moorhead in
my ambulance and
stopped several days in
St Paul and Chicago.
Ward and Ashe are

now domiciled with the others in Ottawa,
and I think I shall visit them ere
long. Ward tells me they are having a
lively time. From Manitoba, I have
heard no news as yet, except that the
Mounted Police are now at Dufferin.
We are trying to arrange for a general
exchange of pictures among all the
officers. I have got Anderson, Galway, Ward,
and Asher so far, and shall expect a
copy of your own thing in your answer
to this, ere you don't fail and I will

send you one of mine in return:
Notman is now trying to do justice to
my classical countenance. Thanks for your
kind offer about my plants of which I
shall certainly take advantage.

I have almost made up my mind to
settle down to practice in this place, if I
can find a suitable locality, and I trust
will always be able to find you a bed
and some vittuals when you come to see
the "Queen City." Dwellworth was all O.K. when
I shipped him. Write soon to

Box. 367.

Yours sincerely
J. W. Burgess.

Notman of Ottawa is doing the Common pictures.