

Copy.

Fort Macleod New G.
Sept. 23. 1881.

Dear Sir Alexander,

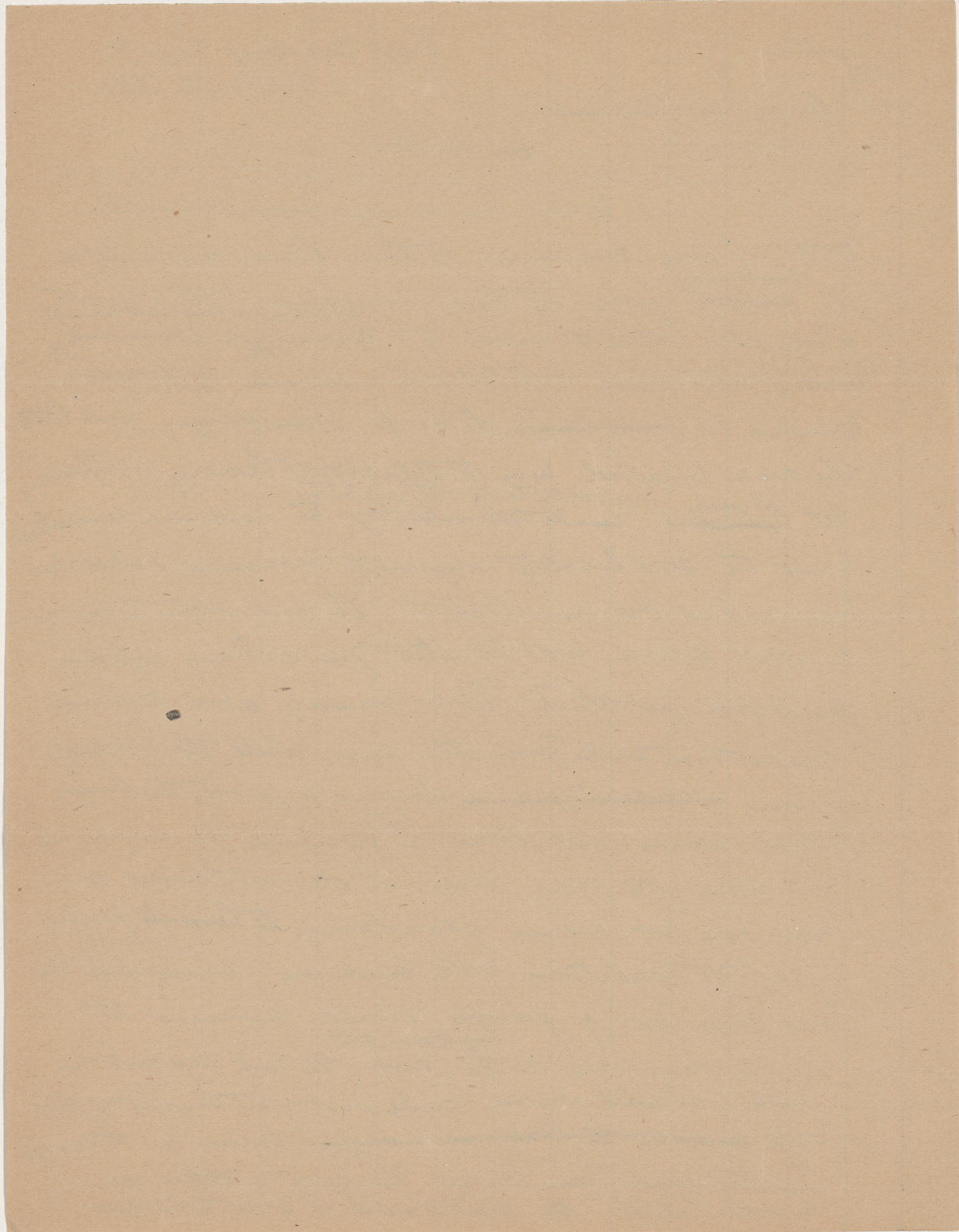
~~Since I wrote~~

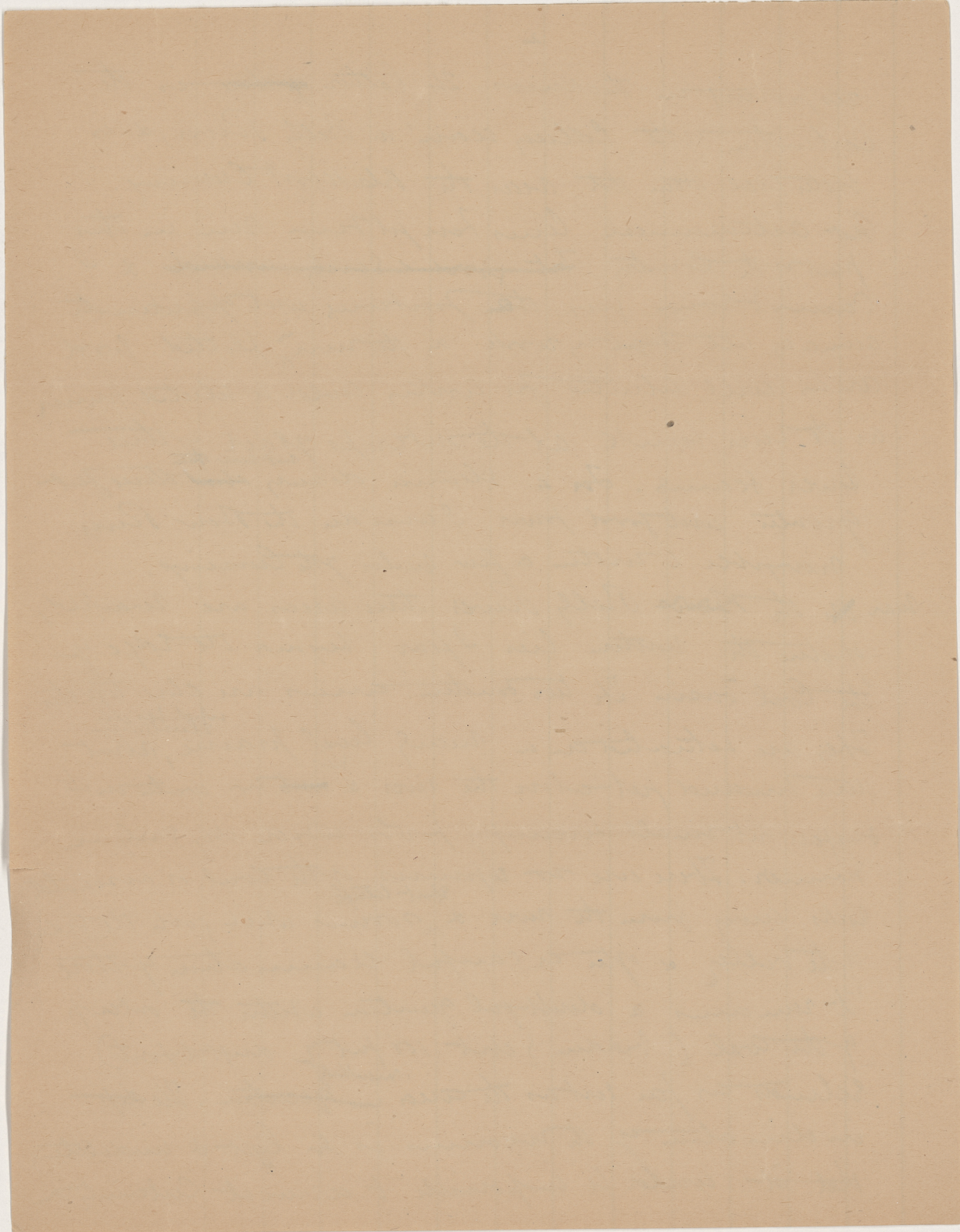
from this place

Since I wrote last month ^{immediately} after the receipt of your letter concerning the coal lands, ~~and just before leaving this place~~, I have examined the Bow River, & country in its ^{neighborhood} vicinity from the Rocky Mountains to its mouth ^{the collision on Bow R. & the vicinity of} & I have also taken occasion to ~~revisit~~ ^{revisit} a ~~claiming~~ ^{claiming} were particularly with special reference to the areas marked on your ~~map~~. The map accompanying your letter.

The area marked near the Blackfoot Crossing is I presume that ~~referred~~ ^{is a part of the line of the department} in the granting of the land in connection around the coal locality originally discovered, & which has been worked to a small extent. The coal at this place is a good seam, well situated for working between four & five feet thick. It is, however, at a distance of about three miles from the river, while the same seam, ~~better developed~~ & showing a greater thickness of coal occurs well exposed & ^{better} situated for mining on both sides of the river itself. I do not know a ~~law~~ here or means guaranteeing the ~~limits~~ ^{limits} ~~promises~~ ^{promises} or conditions of the land in connection on Bow River, but if possible, should recommend the selection of an area on the ^{South side of the} river, the part edge of which should be situated about a mile west of the mouth of the Creek ~~on which the coal was originally shown on the map.~~

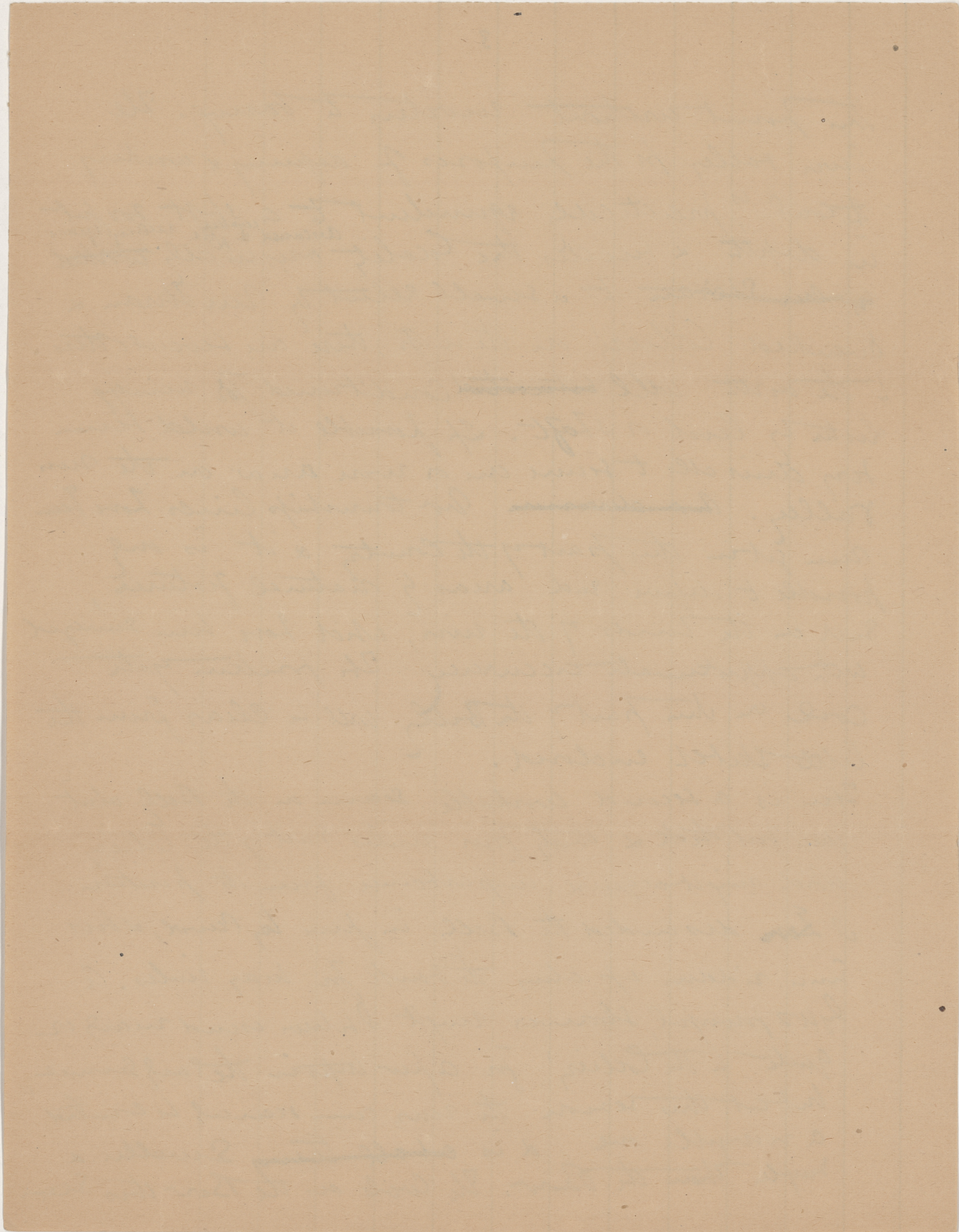
Further down Bow River two good workable seams of coal occur, ~~the~~ 4 feet 4 inches & 4 feet 6 inches





this point without resorting to boring. The
 river valley for the purposes of dipping & working
 the coal is practically equivalent to a shaft 200 feet
 in depth, & besides the Colliery ^{discarded & replaced} originally worked
 by ~~Mr. Storan~~ to a small extent by Mr. Storan, &
 a worked 'Colliery' on the map, there are several others
 to the north well ~~situated~~ conditioned for mining
 either by level or shaft. If possible it would seem
 very desirable to secure one or more areas on the river
 valley. ~~No discovery~~ Our township lines have been
 run out in this part of the country & it is only
 possible to define such areas by natural features,
 such as the bends of the river, which have been surveyed
 with approximate accuracy. The position of the
 coal on this part of the Belly will be clear from the
 little sketch enclosed.

There is a second workable seam on the Belly about
 three feet thick & thirty four miles east of the Colliery,
 which might acquire importance from its position.
 I ~~have~~ descended the Belly in June by canoe, & have
 since ridden up along the bank for many miles. A
 light & powerful steamer might I believe ascend nearly or
 quite to the Colliery for a few days in the early summer,
 but at this season the river can scarcely be entered
 a navigable one & is ~~at all times~~ swelled &
 deeper than the Bow. The coal on the Bow this season



Should there seem to be of great economic importance
to ~~assign~~ a separate importance. Reaching communities
with the upper Missouri would however, at once give
a great value to the Coals in the Belly, as no fuel
suitable for use in steamers has yet been found
on that river.

In view of the facts discovered since I wrote
last & outlined here, I defer making any detailed
report. If the areas can be better cut in the way
indicated a very favorable ^{& definite} report could be made on them.
Otherwise I can if you wish embody the details
among the various seams in a general note on the
Coals of the two rivers, ~~without reference to the special~~
~~areas~~. In about three weeks I hope to be on my way
East & the matter will receive my print attention on
my arrival in Ottawa, by which time I hope to have
heard from you. I have no objection to the publication
of any report I may make, but should like to refer the
question to our Surveyor, or the Director of the Survey ^{first} ~~before~~

~~Survey~~
I should be pleased to have a memo. on the size of the
various areas, & the woods in which they are defined,
& can supply sketches maps of the ~~various~~ localities
with details of the ~~arrangement~~ of arrangement of seams or
of the particulars you ask for in your letter.

number of monkeys at
Atkins
no. of tons of coal to
a square mile in
East Devon.

Copied. See A. T. Fall-

Sept. 23.

1881

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