

Birkenshaw,

Little Metis,

July 17/91

Dear George,

I enclose in this  
 the cutting I mentioned  
 in my last. You will see  
 that the Washingtonians  
 carefully avoid the distinction  
 between selling seals on  
 their bleeding grounds and  
 on the open sea.

There seems to be  
 a report before of Commission  
 of investigation at Ottawa.  
 The papers are filled with it.  
 The "liberals" are trying to  
 scent out all kinds of  
 enormities in public be-  
 haviour at Ottawa,



and the Senate on its  
part is endeavoured to  
weath the enmities  
of Mirer & his friends  
at Quebec. The motives  
are bad all round;  
but good will be done,  
though it is impossible to  
mend of any short process  
the benevolence of the Quebec  
habitants; and this will  
remain the weakest spot  
in our American politics  
till the gospel and  
education get into the  
French population. The two  
must go together; for we



any as they are the dupes  
of the priests, or what amounts  
to the same thing, all trying  
to evade their tyranny without  
any higher motive than  
the saving of a few dollars,  
they will remain the same,

I have secured this  
summer some fine and  
determined examples of  
Carboniferous plants, and  
a splendid collection of  
the Uretes Pril & Surges,  
and have revised and  
put together all my most  
important special papers  
under the title "Salient  
Points <sup>in</sup> of the Science of the South"



I have an offer from a  
publisher to give it to me  
and may either do so  
next year, or leave it  
to you to edit for me  
after I am gone. I have  
also quite finished the Plétoenne  
Memoir, and flatter myself that  
it is very good.

Two weeks more of  
chagrin remain, and I hope  
for a little rest before going  
up to Montreal, which I hope  
will be on the first of Sept.

When I return I shall  
be able to send you a few  
more papers, &c.

All kind regards  
and good wishes from all  
here.

Ever yours  
M. Dawson