

The Queen has approved the appointment of Sir George Smyth Baden Powell, K.C.M.G., M.P., and Professor George Mercer Dawson, Assistant Director and Geologist of the Canadian Geological and Natural History Survey, as her Majesty's Commissioners to inquire into the conditions of seal life in Behring's Sea and other parts of the North Pacific. Mr. Ashley Froude has been appointed Secretary to her Majesty's Commissioners.



June 22<sup>nd</sup> 91

Dear Guy,

Allow me to congratulate you very heartily & sincerely on the above announcement, which appears to me very much more than any mere academic distinctions.

The work of investigation will, I should imagine, be very interesting, - none the

2/ less so as the results  
are likely to be of such  
moment, and to be very  
fully canvassed and  
appreciated by the public  
at large.

From a personal point  
of view, which is not by  
any means the least  
gratifying, it should mean  
an immense extension  
of prestige and influence,  
and I should hope a  
decoration

Sir George Baden Powell,  
your fellow Commissioner,  
is a very pleasant fellow,  
I should say a man

3/ energetic, ambitious,  
& certainly hitherto very  
successful. He is not  
of course a man of any  
scientific attainments, or  
modes of thought. Not very  
accurate, & too enthusiastic  
to have very good judgment.  
But you have probably met  
him yourself at Atlanta.

There is only one  
opinion amongst those  
whom I have met here, - that  
a better man could not  
have been appointed, & you  
have the warmest good wishes  
of W. R. R., Sir Chas. Tupper & others  
whom I have met yesterday or

Today - In so far as any  
thanks are due, they are due I  
judge to Lord Stanley, - Sir Chas.  
has not I believe been consulted  
& had nothing to do with your  
appointment.

I judge your beliefs & practices  
are like Father's in the way of play-  
ing a "long hand". Were it not so  
I would ask you if there is any  
likelihood of secretaryships, - assistant  
or other to be had with or without  
pay, later when the commission  
is organized for Washington. It is  
exactly the sort of opening I should  
so far, if I had a chance. My  
present purpose is to see Mother safely  
back in Aug. & remain in Canada  
for a month or two.

Again with renewed congratula-  
tions, and all good wishes for  
prosperity & success.

Very truly,  
Franklin Dawson