London C. W. Dec. 6th 1856

To W. H. Hurton M.D.

Dr Sir

With much pleasure I acknowledge the rect. of your official notice of my election to the honourable position of a corresponding Member of the Natural History Society of Montreal; with also a diploma of Membership.

I forward to you a copy of our London Free Press in which is noticed a recent discovery near St. Thomas of the remains of a Mastodon. — I was about making arrangements for them, with a view to your Institution, when I was informed that they were already purchased by Mr Barnett of Niagara Falls, for his well known Museum. —

We have nothing else of interest to offer you at present, but when the Spring opens I hope to procure some beautiful Specimens of petrifaction. — There is a Spring some ten miles distant from this, which appears to have the power of petrifying all substances which fall into it, whether animal or vegitable. —

many years ago when I visited it I collected a number of Specimens of petrifactions from its waters, such as Snakes Frogs Clams &c and even roots of trees which were Still growing, one or half or more a perfect petrifaction. I intend in the Spring, making a visit to this and Sundry other parts of this western world, and Should I be so fortunate as to fall upon anything worthy of notice, I Shall be most happy to give you the earliest information.

I have the honour to be
Sir yours truly
J. C. Lee