

formed a Company and have secured rights covering the area on which the indications of oil exist. Our late Geologist wrote to the Hon. Geo. Brown on 6 April last, thinking, as he had had some experience in such matters, he might give some useful hints as to the best mode of testing the locality and might recommend some thoroughly reliable person to conduct the operations. Up to this date however he has had no reply. We now write to ask if you can assist us in this way. We send by the steamer a small box containing a specimen of the rock of the locality and a small sample of the oil which seeps from it. It is said by parties who have been there recently that the oil is now flowing from

• Enclosed
Pike Brook on the Bank of New York to 84 New

Wm. D. McChatter, Under Secy

a crevice in the rock at the rate of a barrel
in 24 hours. ^{but this may be exaggerated.} If you could obtain for us the
information we desire as to the best most eco-
-nomic mode of testing and at the same time
ascertain if a suitable person could be had
to conduct operations at what cost we would
feel much obliged. Perhaps the best mode
would be to contract with such a party at a
certain fixed rate either by the foot or by
monthly wages as might be thought best.

What would be the cost of such tubing as
would be required we have no tube here but
have a small engine & boring rods such
as are in use at Canadian oil wells.

Do not wish ^{you} to take up your valuable time
in making necessary enquiries but would thank
you much if you could engage an expert in such
matters at our expense to do so let us know the
result. Of course there will be no definite an-
-ouncement made as to engaging a person to test
the locality without advising us so that we may
consult the other members of the Com.

Nothing further has been done at Merigonville
in way of exploring the Iron Deposit there. Mr. Copeland
time has been fully occupied with legislative duties. He
House is now up however he will be at home. Had you
any suggestions to make as to how we should go to work
Mr. L. will soon be writing to us for instructions.
Yours very truly
Primrose Russell