



Pruners

Victoria 14 June 1878.

My dear Sir

You will be pleased to hear that the Govt. have granted a twenty years lease of the Polson Lake Copper area to Ross & McKay. This will not probably be the end of litigation in the matter as no doubt the other parties will bring suit to set the lease aside if they can but the action of the Govt. has put Ross in a strong position from which it will, we think, be difficult to drive him. I would have advised you sooner how matters were going but your time is too much occupied and the above result has been reached only after considerable negotiations.

Samples of the different sorts of phosphate to enable us to identify it should we meet with it down here

I send you by parcel post by this mail a sample of Rock from near Riversdale would be glad if you would inform me if it contains any valuable mineral.

You are doubtless aware that a Company has been engaged for some time past prospecting for albertite near Dorchester - they have recently discovered - abt 3/4 of a mile from the shaft they are sinking - a deposit of Albertite - 6 inches thick at the surface widening at no great depth to 13 inches - whether it will turn out a valuable vein or not will have to be tested by sinking on it. We have no interest whatever in the operations there. I mention it as you might wish to know that the material had been proved to exist there. There has been some discovery made of Anthracite at Mees Bay N.B.

I send you two pamphlets by this mail which were issued by the parties interested which contain some account of the geological position of this coal

There are some indications of Anthracite near the Debert in this Province with which you are no doubt acquainted and some years ago we spent some money there trying to prove it. Do you think there is any likelihood of a deposit existing there similar to that described in the pamphlets I send you herewith.

We are all rejoiced to see William's Brilliant success at Paris and beg to congratulate you most cordially

I thank you very much for the Review you sent me shall we have the pleasure of seeing any of you in Pictou this season. In haste to say more. Yours sincerely Howard Furness

as it is no Easy task to have  
details fairly brought before the  
Govt and get them properly con-  
sidered. I was unable to do much  
in way of personal attention but  
wrote to some friends in Halifax  
and I rejoice at the result so far.

You have no doubt observed  
the important part the discovery  
of phosphate rock is taking in  
the commerce of the Dominion  
and I have been wishing for some  
time past to ask you if you think  
it probable it exists in this Prov-  
-ince as if it could be discovered  
down here by the sea it would  
open up a new branch of industry  
very beneficial to the Province  
as well as remunerative to the  
discoverers. We would feel very  
much obliged if, at your leisure  
you would send us some small