

3 1/2 Studio Building

Boston Mass.

J. W. Dawson Pres. July 27 1880

Dear Sir

I have had put into my hands for sale a large collection of Minerals both Foreign & Domestic arranged according to Prof. Dana's system, & placed ready for use in glass cases & drawers. They were collected with great care & expense by a Gentleman now dead, & his daughter, heirs, wish to dispose of them.

There are in the collection many rare & scarce specimens such as Spinel, Quartz from the hot springs in Arkansas. Beryl, Crystals of Arkanosite Columbite, & a thousand more interesting & characteristic specimens, well worth the attention of scientific men.

The metals are all repre-
-sented, &

The large specimens numbering many
hundreds are rare & costly, variety of
fossils such as Ichthiosaurus, Archaeosaurus
Eucrinurus, Isotelus &c

There are in all twenty five hundred
& seventy four specimens. The collection
cost the owner from 15 to 20 thousand
dollars.

A 2000 would be required ^{down} to secure
the sale, & the owners would be willing
to leave the price of the collection to
the award of three ~~coll~~ experts.

Is your college fully supplied? It
is not often so complete & well arranged
a collection is offered for sale, ready to
be placed without expense or labor
in a college museum.

I suppose you will be in Boston
at the meeting of the "Association for
the advancement of Science" next
month, when I can give any further
desired information. In the mean

time, should there be any probability
of your college thinking of busi-
ness I can write you in reply,
Yours truly
John Pryor

Possibly you may not remember
me. I remember a stroll we took
in Boston, with my friend Sir Polyzell.
I was then Pres^t of Acadia College
but removed to this country some
years since. Sir Charles & his
lady, who was as good a geologist
as he was, were then staying at
our house.

I should be pleased to have a
line from you.

J. P.

Prior

July 1880

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

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