

Provine Building, H'fax.

Tuesday, June 20, 1852.

Dear Father,

I'm writing to Dr. Selwyn  
at the time I sent the drawings to  
him, I mentioned that I was ~~at~~  
~~presently~~ endeavouring to obtain work  
in connection with the lines con-  
templated by the Syndicate, and  
showed by the tone of my letter that  
I looked upon the continuance of the  
Topographical Survey as quite uncer-  
tain. I have received an answer  
from him in which he says that  
he is quite willing to continue the  
grant of \$1500<sup>00</sup> whether the N.S.  
Govt does or not; and suggests my  
seeing Mr. Holmes about the matter,

to ascertain whether there is any pros-  
pect of his gov<sup>t</sup> coming forward to  
contribute, ~~is the~~ It would be use-  
less to commence in the field without  
some prospect of the information obtained  
being put into shape afterward. The  
results of the elections will be known  
to-morrow, and it may then be pro-  
sible to secure the attention of some  
member of the gov<sup>t</sup>. There seems every  
prospect of the gov<sup>t</sup> being returned; &  
at present all ~~the~~ <sup>its</sup> members are out  
of town. The Chury was thrown out  
last winter merely on personal grounds  
as it was found that Mr. Holmes  
had not consulted his colleagues  
about it to the extent to which  
they were entitled. <sup>As</sup> ~~and~~ it was never  
considered on its own merits; then  
might be a possibility of the new  
gov<sup>t</sup> feeling strong enough to take some

step in the matter.

I have no word yet from Mr. Plunkett. I know that the Conservatives have been endeavouring to obtain the news of the completion of the Synodical arrangements as an additional point in their favour in view of the election, but I could see nothing in last night's paper. I have heard indirectly that it is believed everything is progressing favourably, and I understand also that the time that is being taken is not longer than is to be expected under the circumstances. I do not know how long it will be advisable for me to wait if I do not hear within the next week or ten days.

I was somewhat surprised the other day to learn that Mr. Munro had endowed another chair at Dalhousie College - Literature & History. It appears that he does not consult with the Governors at all in these matters. The

first chair was his own spontaneous  
action. The next was endorsed in favour  
of his brother-in-law Prof. Forrest;  
& this last at the instance of Forrest  
in favour of a Mr. Shureman, a very  
talented young man with whom he is  
acquainted. Any one who endows a  
chair has the right to name the  
Professor. I called on Sir W. Young  
the other day, but found, as I have  
said, that the governors have no previous  
intimation of Munro's intentions, and  
do not venture to give him any  
hints. I spoke to Sir William of the  
importance of an Engineering professorship,  
in which he quite agreed with me. He  
was very cordial, & said I was just  
the man for such a place, and was  
entitled to it, if there were the opening.  
I left a copy of my new testimonials  
with him. On speaking to Mr. Mac-  
lean about it afterwards, he told  
me that something was expected of

Sir William himself; but that he  
was quite insensible to a hint on  
the subject, although it was be-  
lieved that in his will, ~~was~~ he has  
not forgotten the College.

Your affectionate son,

William.

William  
June 1883