

20 July St. William

I send the latest C. P. R. timetable with  
a good Map, just out. Also a paper on  
the Jordan that <sup>you</sup> may not have seen.

Dear Father,

I have just rec'd your two  
letters, the one in Serial written on the  
Parisian and the other from Rock Ferry  
of July 10. You will understand from  
what I have already said, what Shuldys  
position is in the matter. He did not  
give me any hint of an offer having been  
made to him, & rather spoke as if he  
did not take much interest in the matter.  
I learn from him that Mayor Woodland  
originated the idea of having a Communist,  
& the whole scheme seems due to him, &  
he will probably have a good deal of in-  
fluence in the choice made. I have written  
to him as you advise & will endeavor  
to enclose a copy of what I have said.  
I really do not know of anything further.

I can do unless I possibly could get  
a chance of going to Toronto. I do not  
know whether my prospects of the position  
are worth so much risk to my present  
position.

I have learned more about some of  
the Bridge Works in the States. At the  
Cheneyville, the hours are from 7 a.m. till  
6 p.m. simply factory hours. The men  
are fairly well paid. At the Keystone  
the hours are 8 to 5 (I think) but  
the pay is low & most of the men are  
in the position of holding on till they  
can get something better. The fact is  
there is only one position in any of these  
places that is worth anything; the rest of  
the places are not much better than Clerk-  
ships are in other businesses.

On the out-door work this summer  
the men are very hard worked. Dodwell  
was telling me that he commences at

$\frac{1}{2}$  part 6 in the morning, is out all day,  
& works all the evening in his office at  
St. James; then at 11 in the evening he  
takes a bath in the river, & has breakfast  
at six again the next morning. Of course  
there is not quite such a heavy mental  
strain about out-door work, and it is  
more varied; but 15 hours a day is a  
good deal, & this is always what out-  
door work means on the C.P.R. For  
this amount of work, and no guarantee  
of permanence, they pay Do well \$150<sup>00</sup>  
a month. I do think I am better off  
as I am, especially as office work is  
much more likely to be permanent; I  
have a better chance of holding on  
& of looking out for other things.

I have not half answered your  
kind letters, but it is getting late, &  
I have written a good many this evening.  
With love to all from Florence & myself

Your affectionate son

William.

(Over)

I again send this by N. Y. As I  
said, the N. Y. mail closes at 4.10  
this P.M. & the Canadian mail at  
7 P.M., and I wd. be glad if you  
wd. notice the time of delivery of  
this as compared to the Canadian  
mail by which I have no doubt  
you will receive letters. - I find  
from one to two days difference in  
actual time in letters coming from  
England, but this will be a better  
test. The C.P.R. will have to  
get faster strs on the Atlantic if  
they want to leave fast time to  
Yokohama

(over)

(20 July 86)

W. Howland Esq.

Mayor of Toronto,

Dear Sir,

As I have offered myself as a candidate for the position of Commissioner of Public Works in Toronto, I take the liberty of writing to you with reference to my qualifications. While at Paris I had good opportunities of making myself acquainted with one of the best systems of drainage + water supply; + I have also given special attention to hydraulics in its various branches; + although my practical experience has been more in other directions of late, yet I feel that I am by no means unequal to the duties of the position for which I am now offering myself. Allow me also to add that Mr Walter Shandy has kindly allowed me to use his name

in writing to you. I have known him  
for some years & had charge under him  
of the surveys & examinations made  
for the proposed St. Lawrence Tunnel.

I have had no opportunity so far  
of visiting Toronto or of writing upon  
you. If you think it might still  
be of advantage, I would endeavour  
to ~~make~~ make arrangements to  
do so.

Believe me to remain,

Yours very respectfully