

Ottawa. Jan. 27, 1891

Dear Mr. Adams,

I have to thank you for your kind references to the award of the Bigsby medal and to the matter of the degrees.

As to the rock specimens and slides, the facts showed thus. The intrusive (diorite?) mass which they represent is at the heads of streams carrying most of the coarse platinum, and is traversed by veins of magnetite. With the platinum in the streams, besides gold, rounded pieces of magnetite, evidently derived from the above veins occur. One of the pieces of platinum obtained by me had attached to it a dark mineral which I believe you determined to be chromic veins. It thus struck me that a search for chromic iron and for platinum (in however small quantity) might connect the drift platinum with the intrusive rock or with the magnetite veins cutting it. The search for platinum might I thought be made by dissolving a quantity of the round magnetic pebbles and of the magnetite got in places and assaying the residues for platinum in the usual way. In the event of the discovery of any platinum the examination (microscopic) and description of the intrusive rock itself would then be of special interest. I hoped that Mr. Hoffmann could have been able to make the search for platinum in the materials named, but he has not yet done so and seems I think that he cannot do so for some indeterminate time. I can reclaim the whole of these specimens and send them to you if you care to have them, but unless you have more time at disposal than is probable I presume you would not care to have them to deal with. If no platinum can be proved in the materials named the examination of the slides would possess no special immediate interest unless they should be intrinsically interesting.

You might let me know about this at your leisure.

Yours very truly,

George M. Dawson

F. D. Adams and
McGill College

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