



McGILL UNIVERSITY

P.O. Box 6070
Montreal 101, Quebec
16 May 1972

Mrs. Lois Winslow-Spragge
2 Parkside Place
Montreal 109, Quebec

Dear Mrs. Winslow-Spragge:

These have been very busy weeks since my return to the office full time, but I've found that things move slowly nevertheless. Real progress has been made on a number of things involving the Geological Congress next August. Color prints of the George Mercer Dawson water colors, as well as 35 mm. color slides have been prepared and are promised for delivery this afternoon. Selections of the teaching aids used by Sir William have been made and plans for their presentation have been completed. The rock pictures have been placed in what we believe is safe storage in the archives stack area and I'm sure they'll be a sensation. That, as far as I now know will pretty well complete the work we have to do in co-operation with Professor Eakins, and the Geological Congress.

The papers brought to me by Professor Eakins sit almost untouched beside me. They were received on 28 April 1972 and have been assigned a new accession number 1443. They consist of the writing-paper box of letters, mostly from Anna Dawson to her Mother, Lady Dawson, (1869-1895) and a large envelope of materials which are to be photographed. There are a considerable number of George Mercer Dawson water colors which will have to await arrival of color film from Rochester, sometime in June. The pencilled drawings can be photographed but I've held up for lack of operator's time just now.

After every effort had been made to make the Principal's conference room into a Dawson Room, there developed a concensus, that the room simply wasn't right for the purpose. Ceiling too low, walls too broken up with radiators, windows, air conditioning pipes and whatnot. This means that on your return a certain number of items designated for use in that room, must be returned to you.

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Mrs. Lois Winslow-Spragge

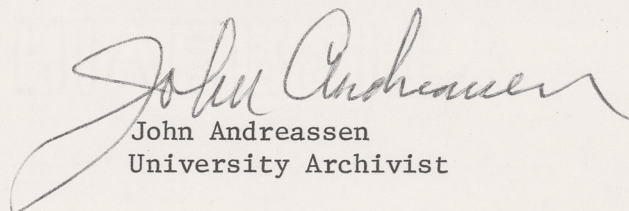
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And now, a most sincere thank you for the draft on the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, which was enclosed with your letter of May 1st. For some time, I've been trying to promote the idea of a "revolving fund" which could be used to provide copies of our holdings on microfilm, by Xerox, as still photographs and as published guides. Income from the sale of such copies would go back into the fund and in due time it could be built up to the point where most such copying would be a self-liquidating operation. I haven't completed the arrangements with the financial people here at McGill, mostly because they are all so busy now since the fiscal year ends on 31 May. If you have no objection, I propose to use your fine gift as the initial deposit in such "revolving fund", shortly after 1 June 1972. It would be increased almost immediately when the copying of Dawson materials for the Geological Congress has been paid for. I do hope that this idea has some appeal to you.

I do hope that you have a most pleasant summer in Almonte. If you do come in to Montreal, I'd like very much to show you the color prints of the George Mercer Dawson water colors which Tom Arnott has been making.

Cordially yours,


John Andreassen
University Archivist

JA:md