

Sydney Mines
2 April 1850

My dear Sir

I enclose you a small
sample of Coal from a Seam
in this neighbourhood
which if you have leisure
I will be much obliged by
your making an assay of
it as soon as possible -
I have made a rough
trial which gave so
much more volatile
matter than I expected
from it, that I am afraid
it was not conducted
properly - Please allow
to give me your opinion

of the Coke -

Perhaps after Dr. Linnæus's
discovery Coal may be
altogether superseded in
the manufacture of Gas
but I have my doubts
of the accuracy of his
statements - what is your
opinion of his discovery?

I purpose going to
England in May - shall
go by way of Picton when
I promise myself the
pleasure of seeing you -

I intend to look out for
an intelligent working
Miner to conduct the
exploration at Polson's

Lake and send him
out - as soon as possible
after my arrival in
England - If the sample
of coal I now send proves
good for Gas I will bring
up larger pieces with
me - Memsam

My dear Sir
Yours very truly
A. Brown

J. W. Dawson Esq