

W. Budd
S. M. P.



Montreal
21st Sep 1871.

Dear Dr. Dawson,

I intend (D.V.)
leaving for Picton Monday
next, & while there, if I have
time I would like to visit
some of the Iron deposits in the
neighborhood. I am convinced
that a home market for the coal
is a necessity, for the profitable
development of the coal fields -
and that the sooner some work
is made towards the erection
of furnaces, the better - All
these industries have been
retarded & injured, by the speculation
values put on the properties - It
is essential to the success of Iron
Furnaces in Canada, that the
raw material should be obtained
at the lowest possible cost -

and if the owners of the Iron
deposits are unwilling to work
them & deliver the ore at a
moderate price per ton, I fear
any movement towards the erection
of furnaces will be checked.
You have a great deal of
influence in the Victoria district,
and may be able to give a
right direction to the development
of the Iron deposits.

What is your opinion as to the
proper method of using the coal
from the Victoria field? I fancy
that if a fair coke can be
obtained, that with the heavy
ores a better result would
be obtained. I fear that
coal such as the Acadia &
Intercolumnal, will not stand
the hot blast, but would clog
up a furnace.

While in England, I visited
some friends in Cumberland, they
are engaged in making hematite
pig iron. - Their furnaces are of

the much improved construction -
about 75 feet high, heating the
blast & driving it - almost entirely
from the gas - They use
Coke entirely, which they
obtain mostly from the Newcastle
district, at a cost of about 20/-
delivered - The iron used
is a mixture of about 50% of iron
has been costing 14/- delivered,
but is now advancing to 20/-
the limestone is obtained at
a moderate cost in the neighborhood.

The product is used chiefly
in the manufacture of Bessemer
steel, and is in great demand,
labor in England has advanced
greatly, thus adding to the cost
of production. This is all
in favor of a successful trial
of iron manufacture - and
hope that those interested in
the coal fields & iron deposits
may soon unite to inaugurate
works. Will you be kind
enough

to let me know, which locality
you consider most worthy of a
visit, nearer to water on
daily communication is
of vast importance - any
other information you may think
useful, will be very thankfully
received -

I am most respectfully
Yours,
Henry A. Budden

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